DORCHESTER DAY CELEBRATION

277TH ANNIVERSARY

1630-1907

4 - L

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2026

https://archive.org/details/dorchesterdaycel0000unse

REPLACING THE OLD DORCHESTER MILESTONE IN FRONT OF THE OLD BLAKE HOUSE.

Senator Leavitt. Congressman O'Connell. Governor Guild. Mayor Fitzgerald. Richard C. Humphreys. Mrs. Micah Dyer. James H. Stark.

DORCHESTER DAY

CELEBRATION OF THE

TWO HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

SETTLEMENT OF DORCHESTER

JUNE 8TH, 1907

INCLUDING ALSO

A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE ORIGIN OF DORCHESTER DAY AND THE THREE PRECEDING CELEBRATIONS

BY JAMES H. STARK

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BOSTON
MUNICIPAL PRINTING OFFICE
1907

CITY OF BOSTON.

In Board of Aldermen, December 23, 1907.

Ordered, That a second edition, consisting of one thousand copies, of the proceedings of Dorchester Day, June 8, 1907, be printed, the expense of same to be charged to the appropriation for Printing Department; such documents to be distributed under the direction of the Joint Committee on Printing.

Passed. Sent down for concurrence.

December 26, came up concurred.

Approved by the Mayor January 2, 1908.

A true copy.

Attest:

JOHN T. PRIEST,
Assistant City Clerk.

ALLIED PRINTING TRADES UNION LABEL COUNCIL BOSTON, MASS.

CONTENTS

Page

ORIGIN OF DORCHESTER DAY 5

FIRST DORCHESTER DAY CELEBRATION.

OPENING ADDRESS BY RICHARD C. HUMPHREYS . . 13
ORATION BY JAMES H. STARK 15

SECOND DORCHESTER DAY CELEBRATION.

POEM, "THE 'MARY AND JOHN' IN DORCHESTER BAY," BY HEZEKIAH BUTTERWORTH 24
SAILING REGATTA 26
ATHLETIC GAMES 27

THIRD DORCHESTER DAY CELEBRATION.

PROGRAM 32
ROSTER OF PARADE 33
ADDRESS BY RICHARD C. HUMPHREYS 35
ORATION BY JOSIAH QUINCY 37
HORSE RACES AND SAILING REGATTA 50

FOURTH DORCHESTER DAY CELEBRATION.

COMMITTEES 56
PROGRAM OF CITY COMMITTEE 56
PROGRAM OF DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY . . 58
REPLACING THE OLD DORCHESTER MILESTONE . . 58
ADDRESS BY RICHARD C. HUMPHREYS 59
ADDRESS BY GOV. CURTIS GUILD, JR. 61
ADDRESS BY MAYOR FITZGERALD 63
ADDRESS BY JAMES H. STARK 65
CELEBRATION AT SAVIN HILL 68
ORATION BY DANIEL CHAUNCEY BREWER . . . 70
ADDRESS BY REV. W. H. ALLBRIGHT 78
ADDRESS BY REV. EUGENE R. SHIPPEN 82
POEM, "DORCHESTER PIONEERS" 83
YACHT RACES 85

	Page
Water Sports	87
The Parade	88
Athletic Games	93
Historic Spots Located	95
Fireworks Display	97
Banquet	99
Address by the President of the Dorchester Historical Society	100
Address by Rev. Peter Ronan	103
Address by Guy A. Ham	106

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Replacing the Old Dorchester Milestone	Frontispiece	
Portrait of William H. Whitmore	Facing page	5
Birthplace of Edward Everett	"	6
Old Blake House	"	8
Portrait of R. C. Humphreys	"	13
Portrait of James H. Stark	"	15
Encampment of New England Guards	"	23
Portrait of Josiah Quincy	"	37
Last Indian Camp on Savin Hill	"	40
City Committee	"	55
Committee of the City Council	"	59
Portrait of Curtis Guild, Jr.	"	61
Portrait of John F. Fitzgerald	"	63
Gravestones from the Old Burial Ground	"	70
Portrait of Eugene R. Shippen	"	82
Yacht Race off Savin Hill	"	85
First Burying Place in Dorchester, Tomb of Gov. William Stoughton	"	96
Committee of the Dorchester Historical Society	"	108

William H. Whitmore

FOUNDER OF THE DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY, AND FIRST PRESIDENT
OF SAME, FOR MANY YEARS CITY REGISTRAR AND
RECORD COMMISSIONER.

ORIGIN OF DORCHESTER DAY

On April 6, 1891, William H. Whitmore, City Registrar, and Mr. James H. Stark, both well-known antiquarians and historical students, obtained a special act of the Legislature incorporating the Dorchester Historical Society.

This society succeeded the Dorchester Antiquarian and Historical Society, which was organized on January 27, 1843; but at the organizing of the new society its membership had been reduced to but three members, namely: Edmund J. Baker, President; Henry G. Denny, Secretary; and William B. Trask, Curator.

The new society started with a membership of twenty-five. Since then many of the best known and most influential men of the old town have become members.

Among the results of the society's work may be mentioned the observance of the 274th anniversary of the settlement of Dorchester and the inauguration of Dorchester Day, which is now a fixture, and under the auspices of the society the anniversary is observed yearly, and is practically a "home coming" for the residents of old Dorchester that are scattered throughout the land. Business houses and private residences are elaborately decorated. There are parades, addresses, regattas, ringing of bells, fireworks, etc.

The principal purpose of the society is to collect, preserve and publish information concerning the ancient town of Dorchester.

The activity and industry of its members since its incorporation have contributed much to the general interest in Colonial and Revolutionary annals, and many scenes of national historic importance before unheeded and almost unknown have become through research and publication familiar.

Among the results of the society's work may be mentioned the location from ancient records of the site on which stood the first town meeting-house and the first public school.

April 11, 1894, the society celebrated the 100th anniversary of the birth of Edward Everett, who was born in the old mansion on the corner of Boston and Pond streets, at the "Five Corners." A public meeting was held in Winthrop Hall, at which delegations from the Board of Aldermen and Common Council took part in the services. An eloquent oration was delivered by the Rev. James De Normandie, and an address by Mr. James H. Stark, giving a history of the Edward Everett mansion, which prior to the Revolution was owned by Thomas Oliver, the last royal Lieutenant-Governor of Massachusetts. The meetings of the society were first held at the residences of its members, and the one thing that its members stood in the most need of was a building in which it could hold its meetings and store its archives and historic treasures. The city purchased a lot of land to be used for greenhouse purposes on

BIRTHPLACE OF EDWARD EVERETT.

East Cottage street and Massachusetts avenue. On this lot was situated one of the oldest colonial houses in Dorchester, which was offered to the Historical Society if they would remove the same. Mr. John H. Blake and Dr. Clarence J. Blake, descendants of the settler who built the house, and other members of the family, very generously offered $1,000 toward the expense of moving and restoring it. Another $1,000 was subscribed by members and others. The city allowed the building to be moved upon the triangular piece of land at the junction of Pond street and the Parkway, at the "Five Corners"— now Edward Everett square — opposite the Edward Everett mansion. This land was given to the city a few years ago by the late Mr. Richardson, the owner of the Edward Everett house, and was near the site of the first meeting-house, town-house, and first free school. The city afterwards contributed $2,000 for grading and laying out the grounds surrounding the building.

At a meeting of the society held in April, 1904, the Vice-President, Mr. James H. Stark, proposed that the society should celebrate the settlement of Dorchester by proper observances on the crest of Savin Hill, on the site where the first fort was erected, and where the first settlers located. Mr. Stark's object in this was to draw the attention of the public to this most beautiful and attractive historic spot, with the end in view that the city should purchase it for a park and hand down to posterity this lovely hilltop. At first it was difficult to

see how it could be accomplished, for the treasury was empty, all the funds of the society having been used in moving and fitting up the building. Mr. Stark argued that it would not only draw the attention of the public to the necessity of preserving to posterity this historic spot, but it would advance the interests of the society, as it would bring it more prominently before the public, and if it proved a success "Dorchester Day" would become the annual "field day" of the society. It was finally voted that the society should celebrate the settlement of Dorchester by a band concert and addresses, etc., on the crest of Savin Hill, on June 25, 1904, and that the same should be known as "Dorchester Day," and that Mr. James H. Stark be requested to raise the funds and pay the bills for same. Mr. Stark accepted the service, and collected $135, which proved sufficient to pay all the bills for tent, printing, and light refreshments, etc. The city furnished the Municipal Band, flags, etc., free. And thus was "Dorchester Day" inaugurated. The following account of the observances of the occasion is from the *Boston Herald* of June 26, 1904.

THE OLD BLAKE HOUSE.
Owned and occupied by the Dorchester Historical Society. Built about 1650.

THE FIRST DORCHESTER DAY CELEBRATION

JUNE 25, 1904

FIRST DORCHESTER DAY CELEBRATION

JUNE 25, 1904

Lifted nearly one hundred and fifty feet above Dorchester bay, the craggy slopes and tree-covered heights of "Rocky Hill," "Old Hill," or "Savin Hill," as it has been variously styled, were yesterday the scene of commemorative exercises that seem destined to make a new place of historical pilgrimage for the tourist whose steps are annually bent toward Massachusetts. The members of the Dorchester Historical Society, having planned to turn this long-neglected spot into a park, which shall at the same time commemorate the settlement of Dorchester in 1630, and possess the character of a national monument, had enlisted the aid of several local societies, such as the Savin Hill Improvement Association, Gen. Rufus Putnam Chapter, D. R., Savin Hill Yacht Club, Harrison Square Association, Dorchester Lower Mills Improvement Association, Mattapan Improvement Association, Field and Forest Club, Dorchester Veteran Firemen's Association, Benjamin Stone, Jr., Post 68, G. A. R., and the United Improvement Association of Dorchester.

Under invitation of these organizations some two hundred citizens of Dorchester gathered in a tent on the crest of Savin Hill, and there, alternated with

selections by the Boston Municipal Band, under Emil Mollenhauer, patriotic addresses were made on the significance of the day and the site, the speakers being Richard C. Humphreys, President of the Dorchester Historical Society; James H. Stark, who delivered the oration; the Rev. Eugene R. Shippen of the First Church in Dorchester, who presided; the Rev. Peter Ronan and Representative Guy A. Ham.

In calling the meeting to order, Richard C. Humphreys made the following address:

R. C. Humphreys

PRESIDENT OF THE DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

OPENING ADDRESS

BY PRESIDENT RICHARD C. HUMPHREYS

We are standing on historic ground, where stood the first fort in the early days of Dorchester, and at the foot of this hill all along the shore stood a line of fortifications which I well remember. Within rifle range of this hill was built the first free school in the world, the first town meeting being held no farther off; on yonder river, the Neponset, was built the first mill on this side of the ocean, and the first potatoes raised in New England were planted on what is now Savin Hill avenue.

In the good old town of Dorchester Edward Everett was born and Daniel Webster lived. Time would fail me to tell of all the governors, generals and famous men who have lived within the limits of Dorchester.

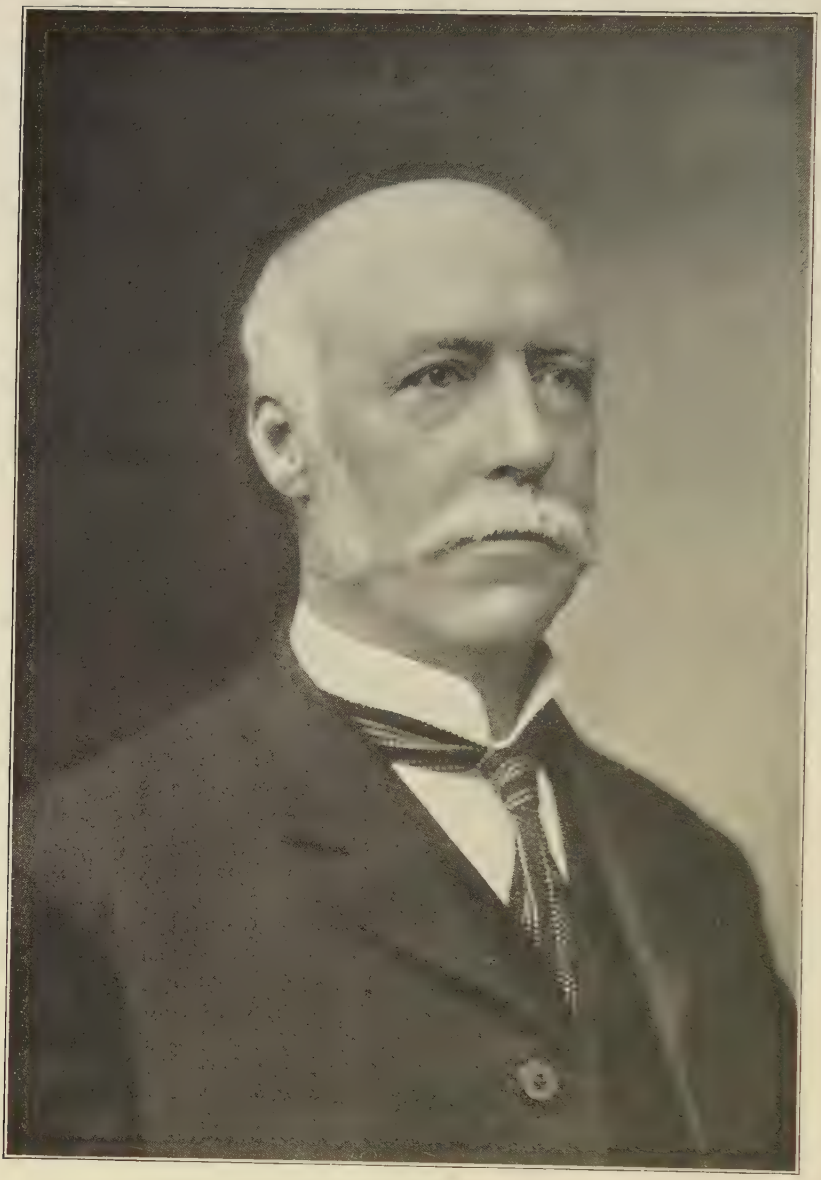
TO PRESERVE SAVIN HILL FOR ALL FUTURE TIME.

The Dorchester Historical Society made a great effort, in which its former President, John J. May, of sainted memory, took an active part, to save this hill for all time by making it a park, and we wish to have you all take a greater interest in our society, to join it and help us make the people more fully realize what historic ground we have here at hand.

I have pleasure in introducing to you, as presiding officer of the day, the pastor of the First Church in Dorchester, which for more than 150 years was the only church in the town.

The Rev. Eugene R. Shippen then made his address as presiding officer. "Dorchester's golden age," said he, "is in the past. In 1633 it was the greatest town in New England, Boston being but a suburb. It was within sight of this hill that the good ship "Mary and John" rode at anchor, bringing the men who came here to help found this great republic."

The historic address of the occasion was then delivered by James H. Stark, Vice-President of the Dorchester Historical Society.



James H Stark

FOUNDER OF DORCHESTER DAY, AND OF THE DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY.
AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF SAME

ORATION

BY JAMES H. STARK

Fellow citizens and members of the Dorchester Historical Society who have shown such an interest in preserving this historic hill and the landmarks of your ancient town, we have come here to the summit of "Old Hill" to-day to lay the offerings of cherished memories and honest pride upon altars which our fathers reared here in Dorchester in years that are past. Two hundred and seventy-four years have passed since the ship "Mary and John" arrived here from England with the first Dorchester settlers, composed of families from Devon, Dorset and Somersetshire. And standing, as we do, upon a spot which was witness to some of their early struggles, and whose occupancy was among the early fruits of their triumph over the difficulties that surrounded them, the memory goes back instinctively to that train of events which was crowned by the planting of a colony of free, enlightened Englishmen on the shores of New England.

Among them was a young man named Roger Clap, who informs us in his narrative that "many of these people were trading men, and at first designed Dorchester for a place of trade, and accordingly built a fort upon ye hill called Rock-hill, wherein were several pieces of ordnance, near ye

waterside; but ye channel being poor and landing difficult, and Boston and Charlestown harbor being far more commodious, they desisted from their design and many of them removed afterwards to Boston and other places." Therefore, strange as it may appear, the level ground around this wild, rugged spot was selected and occupied by the first settlers a year before Boston was settled, and here they intended to establish the future New England metropolis, but were defeated in their design because "ye channel being poor and landing difficult," which defect, singular to say, was removed the ninth day of this month [laughter and applause], when for the first time since the settlement of Dorchester the channel is good and a landing can be made at low tide.

Among the most notable of the early settlers of Rock Hill was Roger Ludlow. He was a brother-in-law of Governor Endicott, and in 1634 was chosen Deputy Governor. His home, which was probably the best in Dorchester at that time, was situated on the site of the Denny estate, at the foot of this hill. Winthrop informs us that "Mr. Ludlow, in digging the foundations of his home in Dorchester, found two pieces of French money; one was coined in 1596. They were in several places, and above a foot within firm ground." From this it would appear that the French were here trading with the Indians before the English came.

At a meeting of the projectors of the colony, held in England, October 15, 1629, a plan for fortification

was drawn up, by which it was agreed that the Massachusetts Company was to bear half the total cost for such work, the other half to be met by the settlers. In accordance with this order, the General Court ordered, in 1639, "ye mounting of the great guns at Mr. Hawkins' on Rock-hill." The town for its part ordered "that Mr. Aderton and John Wiswall shall p'cure wheels to be made and carriedge to mount the peeces that are at Mr. Hawkins' by the sea and cause them to be mounted."

On the north side of the hill is an old house supposed to be that of John Eells, erected previous to 1640. During the siege of Boston, 1775–6, it was used as barracks by the American troops, this being the extreme end of the Dorchester line, forming the right wing of the American army. During the war of 1812–14 earthworks were erected on the water front around the southerly and easterly part of the hill; there is now but little left of them. The New England Guards encamped annually at Savin Hill for many years. The engraving on the programs is a copy of a painting in the Old State House made in 1819, and gives a very good view of the camp and hill.

Since this little Gibraltar was dismantled its site has not appeared in history, but during all these years the many generations that have come and gone have used this beautiful spot for their picnic grounds. There are thousands now living in Boston and its vicinity who can recall with pleasure the many happy childhood days passed merrily at Savin

Hill. During this time the name of the hill has been changed three times. For the first 100 years it was known as "Rock Hill," the second 100 years as the "Old Hill," and 75 years ago it was named Savin Hill by Joseph Tuttle, who established a summer hotel here at that time, Savin being the scientific name of the red cedar with which the hill was formerly covered.

Edward Everett, the silver-tongued orator and statesman, in his Fourth of July oration in Dorchester in 1855, referred to Savin Hill as follows: "Old Hill, as we called it in the days of my boyhood, more than fifty years ago, has lost that venerable name in the progress of refinement. Though it has become a half-century older, notwithstanding the tasteful villas which adorn its base, it exhibits substantially the same grouping of cedars and the same magnificent rocks, and commands the same fine view of the harbor which it did before a single home was built within its precincts. Venerable trees that seemed to me in my childhood — I have been looking at them this morning — seem but little bigger now, though I trace the storms of fifty winters on some of their well-remembered branches."

Edward Everett's description of Savin Hill, as it appeared to him a century ago, is equally applicable to the present time. When the question of public parks for the City of Boston was first discussed, a few years ago, and a commission appointed to select locations, they selected Savin Hill for Dorchester, as possessing in the greatest degree the natural phy-

sical characteristics necessary for a park, and requiring the least expenditure for subsequent development, also for its accessibility to all classes of citizens for walking, riding and boating, or by means of car travel, and for its adaptability and economy. Since then the owners of the hill have very generously offered it to the city on the payment to them of an amount practically equal to the amount paid by them in taxes since they owned it.

It is the hope and desire of every lover of what is historical and beautiful in nature that this ancient landmark be preserved. Now is the time, for in a few years more it will be too late, when the hill will be shorn of its natural beauties and disfigured. Let us hand down to posterity this beautiful spot, and future generations will bless us for our forethought.

DORCHESTER DAY SHOULD BE PLACED UPON HISTORIC CALENDAR.

The Rev. Father Ronan then urged on his audience the duty of co-operating with the Dorchester Historical Society in the work of making Dorchester Day an institution. "Let us," he said, "stand shoulder to shoulder until this occasion shall be placed upon the calendar of Boston's annual celebrations."

The Hon. Guy A. Ham also dwelt upon the significance of Dorchester in the development of American institutions, and strongly urged the inculcation of more historic pride than was now shown in such sites as Savin Hill. "Monuments of war," said he, "have been erected throughout our country — let us also remember the monuments of peace."

The proceedings were brought to a close by the passing of resolutions presented by President Savage of the United Improvement Association, thanking the Dorchester Historical Society and the owners of the property for the opportunity to celebrate the 274th anniversary of the first settlement of the town of Dorchester, and commending the labors of the Dorchester Historical Society and other historical associations in their efforts to preserve the records of the past and in publishing accurate accounts of the doings of the early settlers.

Dorchester Day proved to be a great success in every respect. It was well received by the public, it brought the Dorchester Historical Society into prominence, and above all else it brought to a successful issue the object for which it was originally started, viz., the preservation of the hill, and its acquirement by the city to be forever used as a public park. Among the visitors to the hill on that occasion was the Hon. John F. Fitzgerald and his family, who had recently removed to Dorchester. This was his first visit to Savin Hill, and he was so struck with the beautiful surroundings and magnificent view from the hill that he then declared that, if he was ever elected Mayor of Boston, he would favor the securing of the hill for a park, and in the fall, when he became a candidate for the mayoralty, he made similar promises, which he made good on July 26, 1907, when he signed the bill which made a park of Savin Hill and preserved this beautiful spot, for which he will be blessed by posterity.

THE SECOND DORCHESTER DAY CELEBRATION

JUNE 10, 1905

ENCAMPMENT OF NEW ENGLAND GUARDS AT OLD HILL, 1819.
From a painting in the Old State House.

SECOND DORCHESTER DAY CELEBRATION

JUNE 10, 1905

Dorchester arrayed itself in holiday attire in honor of the 275th anniversary of the settlement of Dorchester; business houses and private residences were elaborately decorated, and the affair was practically a "Home Week" for the residents of old Dorchester and the hundreds that poured into the old town from miles around. The city government appropriated $1,000 for the day, and many contributions increased the amount to a good sum. The day's events opened with a

PARADE

That started at two o'clock from the Old Blake House. The line was composed of:

Mounted Police.
Francis A. Dove, Chief Marshal.
Forest H. Stowell, Chief of Staff.
Post 68, G. A. R., Band.
Post 68, G. A. R.
Camp 30, S. of V.
Camp 74, S. of V.
Drum Corps.
Dudley School Cadets.
Sons of the Union.
Guests in carriages.
Cambridge City Band in barge.
Dorchester Gentlemen's Driving Club.

Leaving Edward Everett square, the line passed Upham's Corner to Meeting House Hill, where, on the common in front of the First Church, the Rev. Eugene R. Shippen delivered a brief historical address. The line then reformed and proceeded, via Bowdoin, Hancock and Pleasant streets, along Savin Hill avenue, to the crest of Savin Hill, where a large tent was erected on the site of the old fort "where ye great guns were mounted." Here the exercises of the day were held the same as on the previous year. The President, Richard C. Humphreys, delivered the address of welcome. He was followed by the Rev. James Eells, pastor of the First Church of Boston, whose ancestor, John Eells, was one of the first settlers on the northeast side of the hill. He was the seventh minister in an unbroken family line of ministers, a most unusual genealogical record. The oration of Mr. Eells was followed by addresses by Alderman William J. Hennessey, John F. Ayer, President of the Bay State Historical Club, and the Rev. Florence J. Halloran, St. Peter's Church, and a poem by its author, Hezekiah Butterworth.

THE "MARY AND JOHN" IN DORCHESTER BAY.

HEZEKIAH BUTTERWORTH.

It was Thanksgiving Day, and the sea-meadows lay
In long russet curves around Dorchester bay;
The sturdy oak mansions had opened their halls,
The chimneys had smoked on the Mystic and Charles.
And Grandfather Minot looked out on the sea —
The last of the Dorchester Pilgrims was he —
And he thought of the days of the pioneers gone
Who sailed on the deck of the "Mary and John."

The blue birds had gone from the gentians blue,
The white clouds of gulls o'er the white waters flew.
"Go, Thankful, and bring me the Bible," he said;
And then how the old Hebrews murmured, he read.
And Thankful, his grandchild, looked into his face
And wondered that faltered the faith of God's race.
And wondered if faltered those pioneers gone
Who sailed on the deck of the "Mary and John."

"Fifty times, Father Minot, you say you have seen
The white islands change into islands of green;
Fifty times in the elms seen the oriole's wings,
And heard the red woodpeckers number the springs.
I love the strange tales of the Pilgrims of yore,
And of those who first landed on Dorchester's shore."
And she thought of the days of the pioneers gone.
Did they falter who sailed on the "Mary and John"?

Then said the old man at the set of the sun,
"The field blossoms long that has victory won;
Look out on Point Allerton's headlands of pine,
And the oak-shaded beaches that Dorchester line.
'Twas there, off the bay, on summer's first morn,
That our anchor was dropped from the 'Mary and John.'
The white sea birds' wings in the sunset there glow,
And cover the ledges like live banks of snow.

"The western winds blew through the horizons of calm,
And sweet o'er the waves rose young Maverick's psalm:
There dropped the white sails, and the anchor was cast,
And there we knelt down 'round the motionless mast,
And our Thanksgiving made, and psalms followed prayer,
And the birds sang with us on the spars in the air!"
And dreamed the old man of the pioneers gone
Who sailed on the deck of the "Mary and John."

"But, Grandfather, listen: The islands turned gray,
And the north wind came down, and ice filled the Bay;
Of food there was little; the women lay low
With fever and hunger; men wandered through snow
To buy from the Indian a bushel of corn;
And returned not the sails of the 'Mary and John.'
Ah! no, never more to those pioneers gone
Came the sea-shattered sails of the 'Mary and John.'

"The sad heart turns back to its birthplace in pain,
And murmured the Hebrews for Egypt again.
Did my mother, whose grave now the gentians enfold,
E'er long for old England and Dorchester old?
And did you ever murmur, or those who are gone,
Who sailed on the deck of the 'Mary and John'?
Which were the more worthy, my Grandfather, say,
The pilgrims of old, or of Dorchester bay?"

"I am glad that you asked me that question," he said.
"I well know the faith of the pioneers dead.
A true heart has no secrets, but open it lies,
As the lips of the sea, and the smiles of the skies.
No, they never looked back, those pioneers gone,
They never looked back for the 'Mary and John.'
In the days of the famine, the sickness, and cold,
They never looked back to Dorchester old.

"'Tis prospects that make the heart happy, and they
No golden calf worshipped on Dorchester bay.
To dream of the new hope and not of the old
Turns a measure of samp into banquets of gold.
When your mother looked out over Dorchester sea,
She dreamed of what life to her children might be.
And so dreamed they all. No regrets sailed away
When the 'Mary and John' left new Dorchester bay."

"Were you better than Aaron?" What now could he say
Who well knew the Pilgrims of Dorchester bay?
The woods were all silent, the sea winds were stayed,
When the lights of Neponset shone out in the shade.
"No Dorchester Pilgrim," he said, with a smile,
"In the wilderness dreamed of the palm-shaded Nile!"
Then in silence they dreamed of the pioneers gone
Who never looked back for the "Mary and John."

This was followed by a song, "The New America," by Brenton H. MacCurdy.

SAILING REGATTA.

At three o'clock a sailing regatta was held in Dorchester bay under the management of Alderman

Clark. The wind and weather was suitable and the regatta was pronounced a great success.

ATHLETIC GAMES.

At 3.30 the athletic meet was held at the Christopher Gibson Field. The events were 100-yard dash, 220-yard dash, 880-yard run, one-mile run, three-mile run, high jump and relay races. There was also amateur baseball games held on Franklin Field, in which four teams competed.

TORCHLIGHT AND BONFIRE.

At eight o'clock there was a torchlight parade, held under the auspices of the Dorchester High School baseball team, to celebrate their winning the Interscholastic League games. A bonfire was held in a field near the High School. The Boston Letter Carriers' Band gave a concert at the High School, and the Benjamin Stone Band also gave one at eight o'clock in Andrew square.

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

The second celebration of Dorchester Day was pronounced an unqualified success. The committee of arrangements consisted of Richard C. Humphreys, Chairman; James H. Stark, Thomas F. Temple, the Rev. Eugene R. Shippen, William Hoag, Dr. M. O. Daly, Frank W. Merrick, William Kelley, Walter D. Loring and C. Hodgdon. The Dorchester Historical Society and the Dorchester Improvement Societies, consisting of the Savin Hill, Harvard, Ashmont, Harrison Square, Mattapan, and other societies assisted in the celebration.

THE THIRD DORCHESTER DAY CELEBRATION

JUNE 9, 1906

THIRD DORCHESTER DAY CELEBRATION

JUNE 9, 1906

The 276th anniversary of the settlement of Dorchester by the English began at noon with the booming of cannon on the United States cruisers "Cleveland" and "Tacoma," which had been ordered to Dorchester bay, and the ringing of bells; the celebration continued unceasingly, concluding with a display of fireworks on Franklin Field, personally conducted by Mayor John F. Fitzgerald.

Never before was Dorchester in such a gala attire. The houses and other buildings along the route of the parade were one mass of flags and bunting. Considering that Dorchester Day was instituted only three years ago, the showing was magnificent, and made the citizens feel confident that this day of celebration had come to stay. The arrangements were in the hands of the Dorchester Historical Society and of the local members of the city government, headed by Alderman Tilton S. Bell, and they, with the assistance of Mayor John F. Fitzgerald, were responsible for the success of the day.

PROGRAM.

Richard C. Humphreys, President of the Dorchester Historical Society, presided.

Music, Cornet Solo . . . Karl Forsell.

Song, "The Sword of Bunker Hill" (adapted), *Covert.*
Brenton Haliburton MacCurdy, Tenor.

Oration . . . . . Hon. Josiah Quincy, Ex-Mayor of Boston.

Music . . . . . Post 68, G. A. R., Band.

Address . . . . . Hon. John F. Fitzgerald, Mayor of Boston.

Song, "Hail, thou Day of Days," *Wenger.*
Mr. MacCurdy.

Music . . . . . Post 68, G. A. R., Band.

America.

My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty, —
Of thee I sing:
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrim's pride,
From ev'ry mountain side
Let freedom ring!

ROSTER OF THE PARADE.

The parade was one of the principal events of the day, starting shortly after 2.30 o'clock. It formed on Talbot and Welles avenues and moved over the following route: Talbot avenue to Peabody square, to Ashmont street, to Ocean street, to Welles avenue, to Washington street, to Park street, to Greenbrier street, to Bowdoin street, to Quincy street, to Columbia road, to Stoughton street, to Pleasant street, to Savin Hill avenue, to Grampian way.

The roster of the parade was:

Chief Marshal, Charles T. Harding.
Chief of Staff, Lieutenant Dudley M. Pray.
Chief Aid, Captain F. A. Walker.
Quartermaster, Lieutenant George A. Wardwell.
Commissary, Lieutenant C. L. Carter.
Surgeon, Lieutenant C. S. Capelle.

Aids — Sergeant Aaron Wolfson, A. and H. A. Co.; Sergeant J. J. Feeley, A. and H. A. Co.; Sergeant Fred M. Wood, A. and H. A. Co.; Lieutenant H. C. Cormerais, Fifth Infantry; Lieutenant H. C. Waterman, Fifth Infantry; Lieutenant F. M. Whiting, Fifth Infantry; Lieutenant J. J. Dwyer, Ninth Infantry; Captain J. J. Cully, Ninth Infantry; Captain C. Harrison, staff First Brigade; Lieutenant C. A. Pettingill, Fifth Infantry; Lieutenant C. I. Petersen, Sixth Infantry; Lieutenant D. H. Fogg, C. C. A.; Lieutenant W. C. Wilkins, S. V. R.; Lieutenant-Colonel J. R. Smith, B. N. and M. Veterans; Commander Louis Epple, L. S. W. V.; Commander-in-Chief Walter Penney, S. V.; Lieutenant F. H. Turnbull, Naval Brigade; Commander F. S. Chubbuck; Colonel W. H. H. Garry; Sergeant-Major F. R. Googins, First Battalion Cavalry; Hospital Sergeant C. F. Drury; Orderly C. A. Kemp.

Tenth Artillery Band.
Forty-sixth Company U. S. Coast Artillery,
Captain C. R. Lloyd.

Seventy-sixth Company U. S. Coast Artillery,
Captain J. F. Howell.
United States Marine Band.
Battalion United States Marines.
United States Naval Band.
Battalion United States Blue Jackets,
Lieutenant-Commander E. W. Davis, U. S. N.
Signal Corps, M. V. M.,
Captain W. C. Stevens.
A. L. Sixth Infantry, M. V. M.,
Captain George W. Braxton.
Company H, Fifth Infantry, M. V. M.,
Captain George T. Lattimer.
Seventh Company, C. C. A. M. V. M.,
Lieutenant G. M. King.
Naval Brigade Battalion Band.
Company A, Naval Brigade,
Lieutenant D. M. Goodrich.
Company B, Naval Brigade,
Lieutenant C. A. Lewis.
Company E, Naval Brigade,
Lieutenant J. B. Blood.
Camp 30, Sons of Veterans,
Commander H. C. Thomas.
British Naval and Military Veterans,
Lieutenant-Colonel J. R. Smith.
Letter Carriers' Band.
Dorchester Letter Carriers,
T. N. Dunican, Chief Marshal.
Dorchester High School Cadets, Four Companies.
Dudley School Cadets,
E. W. O'Dowd, Commandant.
Sons of Union,
W. T. Beals, Commandant.
Mystic Side Drum Corps.
Boys' Brigade,
W. S. Harvey, Commandant.
Kitchamankin Tribe, I. O. R. M.
Carriages.

ADDRESS

BY RICHARD C. HUMPHREYS

PRESIDENT OF THE DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Following the parade, the historical exercises took place on the crest of Savin Hill, under the auspices of the Dorchester Historical Society.

In opening the historical exercises President Humphreys said:

Why have we invited you to gather here this afternoon to celebrate Dorchester Day? It is because this is a historic spot, and we feel we can more easily inspire in your hearts the sentiment of patriotism — yes, the sentiment of patriotism. Do you realize that the larger part of the joys and pleasures of life come to us through sentiment? It was sentiment that inspired the hearts of our Revolutionary fathers to resist the encroachment of England. It was sentiment that filled the patriotic hearts of those brave souls who died for us in the War of the Rebellion. It is only sentiment, you say, the desire to preserve this historic spot. It is only sentiment that causes so much to be said, and well said, about saving the Old State House, which has greater historic associations than any other building in the country, except Independence Hall in Philadelphia. It was sentiment that inspired the eloquent and soul-stirring words uttered by the Memorial Day orator

who spoke to the crowd of eager listeners as they gathered about the Robert G. Shaw memorial monument.

We wish to inspire in the hearts of the rising generation a sentiment that will manifest itself in a love for historic spots and historic buildings, that they may as they grow older do their part to preserve Faneuil Hall — the Cradle of Liberty — the Old South Meeting House, the Old State House, and this spot where stood the first fort built after the landing of our Pilgrim Fathers.

We hope that Dorchester Day with its display of flags and its patriotic utterances will kindle in our young people a sentiment of patriotism that will make these Stars and Stripes mean more than ever before —

> And the star-spangled banner,
> O long may it wave
> O'er the land of the free
> And the home of the brave.

Following Mr. Humphreys' address there was a cornet solo by Karl Forsell, and Brenton H. MacCurdy sang "The Sword of Bunker Hill." President Humphreys then introduced the Hon. Josiah Quincy as the orator. He introduced him as a direct descendant of Josiah Quincy of Revolutionary fame.

Josiah Quincy

ORATION

BY THE HON. JOSIAH QUINCY

Three centuries ago this ground was part of the virgin wilderness. Its only inhabitants were the wild Algonquin tribes, whose melodious place-names, like Neponset, Squantum and Mattapan, still cling to prominent features of the landscape, and whose blood has trickled down in the veins of a few old families dwelling in the townships south of the Blue Hills.

It was a period of deep unrest in England. Below the surface, in remote hamlets and counties far from the capital, the waters of discontent were seething, and prescient minds easily foresaw the gathering of the waves of revolution. Under the pressure of political and religious tyranny the land lost many of her sturdiest children, whose migration, under these circumstances, partook of the character of a flight. The settlers of New England were half colonists, half refugees. They loved their mother country, but preferred the perils of the ocean and the horrors of the wilderness to the fate threatened by her rulers to those of their way of thinking.

In 1629 a company, projected by the Rev. John White, of Dorchester, obtained a charter from King Charles I. granting them the rights of settlement in the country along the Massachusetts shore between

a point three miles south of the Charles river and three miles north of the Merrimac. White was a Nonconformist minister, of forceful character and deep convictions. He had rendered substantial aid to the Plymouth Pilgrims, and had already promoted two expeditions to the region of Cape Ann. Under his guidance the Dorchester immigrants, before setting out, organized a congregation, with the Rev. Mr. Maverick as senior pastor and the Rev. Mr. Warham as his assistant. Nothing, indeed, is more striking about the Dorchester colony than the religious spirit which characterized the pioneers and their descendants for many generations. They carried their English Bible as the ancient Hebrews bore with them the Ark of the Covenant. And, however clearly we of to-day may realize their limitations, we cannot refuse our sympathy to the principle of liberty of conscience heroically proclaimed by these English exiles. Their dogma may not attract us, but we may all derive inspiration from their matchless faith.

The fleet of the new company consisted of fourteen vessels, and the passengers were men of good social position, most of them artisans, tradesmen and farmers, with not a few mariners from the channel ports and a sprinkling of clergymen and professional men. Their numbers are estimated at fifteen hundred. In most cases their wives and children accompanied them, and all the circumstances of the voyage pointed to a permanent separation from the mother country and the founding of a powerful colony. the Dorchester party, or "Western men," as they were

called, seemed to have travelled apart from the others in their own ship, the "Mary and John," which was the first vessel to reach Massachusetts bay. They made Nantasket point about the 1st of June, 1630, and were put ashore by the captain, "notwithstanding," as one of their number wrote, "that they held that he was engaged to bring them to the Charles river." Fortunately there were several planters in the neighborhood of Boston at this time, and from one of these the leaders of the party procured a boat, in which they explored the harbor. They visited Mishawum, or Charlestown, and rowed up the river as far as Watertown, where they met a band of three hundred Indians. But the landlocked waters of Dorchester bay and the rich pastures at the Neck had attracted them from the first. They noted the falls of the Neponset, promising power for their mills, and this rocky hill, which might serve as the acropolis of their little settlement in case of an attack by the savages. These advantages seemed to them to outweigh those of the upper harbor and the three-hilled peninsula, and on June 6, 1630, a site was formally selected for the new town. This was a week before the "Arbella," with John Winthrop and his party, reached Salem and proceeded to Charlestown, so that the settlement of this residential suburb preceded that of the city. In September the name of Dorchester was given to the place. The land was parcelled out in an orderly way, and rude homes began to arise between Savin Hill and the "Five Corners." Like the Plymouth Pilgrims, the colonists

suffered severely in the first years of their settlement. Shell-fish was at times a staple article of food, and the log cabins afforded little shelter from the blasts of the harsh New England winter. But these trials soon passed away, and for a decade or more Dorchester was a successful rival of Boston. A meeting-house had been built in 1631 at what is now the junction of Cottage and Pleasant streets. In 1633 a second shipload of eighty-five passengers arrived. A grist mill, said to be the first in New England, was erected by Col. Israel Stoughton, and the sea-faring men of the colony took a leading part in the cod-fisheries, besides making voyages to Maine for valuable furs.

At this stage of its development Dorchester, which then extended southward almost to the Rhode Island line, surpassed the other towns of the colony in wealth, and paid the highest taxes. But the unequal competition with Boston could have only one result.

The advantages of the deep upper harbor soon asserted themselves. While Boston advanced rapidly in commerce and manufactures, Dorchester remained a comely village, or cluster of villages, enjoying a certain distinction as the home of prosperous farmers, and particularly admired for its orchards, gardens and cornfields. In 1654 there were one hundred and forty dwellings in the town. At the time of the Revolution it had about fifteen hundred inhabitants. A century later the number had increased to twelve thousand, while South Boston, a part of the original Dorchester, contained a population of nearly forty

THE LAST INDIAN CAMP ON SAVIN HILL.
On the site of the old fort. From photo made by James H. Stark in 1884.

thousand, and Roxbury thirty-five thousand. Since the annexation, however, the population of Dorchester has doubled, and then doubled again, while the increase in the same period in South Boston has been less than seventy-five per cent. The political barriers once removed and communication established, population now flowed eagerly into this delightful suburb.

The advantages of the union which was followed by so remarkable a development are obvious; but I am glad to note that it has not obliterated the local spirit which makes for individuality and for neighborliness, or destroyed the mellow flavor of the ancient town. Your people evidently still possess the love of old landmarks, which is common to all men of loyal hearts and thoughtful natures. It is only the nomad and the gypsy who pass over the soil, leaving no fixed memorials of their passage, and bearing with them no impression and no affectionate memento of its influence and character. Such roving, volatile types are foreign to our race, in which the spirit of adventure, developed to the highest degree, co-exists with a passionate attachment to particular places. The new with us is ever woven from the old, and our calendar is freely sprinkled with holidays, on which we pause to trace our origins and honor our ancestry.

Few towns have better reason for cherishing the monuments of their early history than Dorchester, for that history was not merely dignified and blameless, but in many respects momentous, if not outwardly

imposing. I have spoken of the beauty of the village and its garden-like appearance. It is no accident that an interest in horticulture should have been one of the conspicuous traits of the Dorchester people down to the present time. Neither is it so extraordinary as perhaps it seems that in this little town, of retired aspect and invitingly tranquil atmosphere, the seeds of some of our greatest institutions should have been sown. It is not the first time that epoch-making ideas have come up to Jerusalem from Galilee.

It was in Dorchester, on October 8, 1633, that government by town meeting, which has so powerfully influenced the character of our people, the structure of our institutions, and the course of history itself, was first established in New England. On that day the colonists agreed to hold regular weekly meetings for the management of their affairs, and soon afterwards a board of twelve selectmen, chosen by popular vote, was elected.

Popular government implies an educated citizenship. By a mutual necessity, a kind of instinctive logic, the establishment of free schools followed the acceptance of democratic principles among the colonists, and in this departure the Dorchester pioneers again took the lead. It was within the precincts of this town, in 1639, that the first free public school, supported by direct tax, in America was founded. Later generations of Dorchester townsfolk showed themselves no less devoted than their predecessors to the cause of general education. Many bequests were left by prosperous townsmen to the public schools, two of

which, at least — the Christopher Gibson Fund and the Stoughton Fund — are still used for the benefit of the school children of Dorchester. Up to 1792, thirty residents of the town had graduated from Harvard College. The founding of your High School in 1852, when the population was barely eight thousand, reflects this inherited or traditional passion for intellectual and spiritual improvement.

Nor did the relations of the early settlers with the aborigines belie their expressions of Christian piety. It must be indeed gratifying to those estimable families among you who bear the names of the Dorchester Puritans, or claim descent from them, to be under no painful necessity of extenuating their conduct toward the weaker race that preceded them on the soil. In 1657 the town gave 6,000 acres in Ponkapoag to John Eliot, the missionary, for the prosecution of his noble labors.

In the main, life seems to have flowed on gently here, an occasional bounty on blackbirds, striped squirrels, or rattlesnakes showing the everyday problems which vexed the good husbandmen. Manufactures never flourished among them; although fulling, snuff and paper mills were built by the river, and the chocolate industry, which has since acquired so wide a celebrity, was established as early as 1765.

The eminent names connected with Dorchester, such as Roger Williams, Increase Mather, Edward Everett, William Stoughton (commemorated in street, township, and university hall), are those of clergy-

men, scholars, and public men rather than of successful merchants.

Though somewhat aside from the main current of trade — a coast town, but not a port — Dorchester played a conspicuous part in every great movement that affected the colonies. It sent its quota of soldiers to the Indian wars, and no town in America was more resolute in its attitude of resistance toward the oppressive acts which culminated in the War of Independence. Its representatives in the General Court were repeatedly instructed to oppose the enactments of the British Parliament, and the resolution of May 23, 1776, that "if the Continental Congress should think it best to declare independency with Great Britain, we will support them with our lives and fortunes," anticipates the very ring of the great Declaration of July 4. The story of the fortifications thrown up on the Neck and at Dorchester Heights in March, 1776, makes the town for once the scene of great historical events and the theatre of critical military operations. In the following year eighty of its townsmen were still at the front, and the records of the War of Emancipation show that the descendants of these patriots had not forgotten their sense of duty in times of national peril. One hundred Dorchester men were killed during the Rebellion, and the 1,342 soldiers furnished were considerably more than the quota of so modest a population.

In several of these developments it appears to me we may trace a certain continuity, a conservation,

due in part to tradition and filial pride, and in part, no doubt, to the physical character of the district, which inevitably affects its inhabitants. More faithfully than many towns you have preserved the monuments of your past. The Blake house, built in 1650, must be one of the oldest dwelling-houses in the country. The burying-ground, in which the tombs of ten generations stand side by side, still touches the passer-by with its mute appeal. Several of your local names are brief historical documents, epitomizing the story of the places that bear them. Such are Meeting House Hill, on which the second house of worship was erected in 1670; Milton, or Mill Town, where Israel Stoughton built his corn mill, the first of its kind; and Cow Pasture, a part of the great meadow where a stout fence, running across the Neck, effectively penned the cattle in the peninsula and guarded them from the manifold dangers of the encircling forest. The name of Old Harbor street in South Boston reminds us of the defeated hopes of the original settlers, and explains in three words why Boston and not Dorchester has become the capital of New England.

You have other memorials which it is grateful to visit, other episodes and characters pleasant to recall, on this birthday of Dorchester town. The original charter granted to the Rev. John White is, I believe, still preserved in the Secretary of State's office at the State House, and I suggest that if every pupil in the Dorchester schools should visit and read that document before graduation it would conduce to rever-

ence and patriotism, and that profound sense of the continuity of life upon which the greatest people of the east, the Japanese, have founded their incomparable discipline.

And what a vivid index to local antiquities are the great highways of the district. With changed names, modern residences, and ever shifting occupants, they still follow the paths traced by the founders, along the lines of natural advantage, and something of the atmosphere of olden days seems to hover about them still. Pleasant street and Savin Hill avenue were the first roads laid out, running through the heart of the original village. Adams street still winds to the ford in the river and thence follows the shore line to Plymouth. Dudley street is still the main artery of travel to Roxbury and Boston, though the vehicle of the traveller no longer passes over a slim, sandy neck only thirty paces wide at its point of greatest contraction.

No part of the district is richer in historic reminiscence than the portion near Savin Hill. The colonists had agreed, before setting out, to build their village compactly, and in accordance with this policy — a wise one in view of the danger from the Indians — the land in this vicinity was divided into four, six and eight-acre lots. A rude fort was built on the hill, whose steep sides made it a miniature Gibraltar, and even the meeting-house was strongly palisaded and stocked with military stores. In these provisions for safety we can trace a vivid picture of the perils to which the early planters were exposed. Doubtless

our Dorchester families at first went to their place of worship armed and prepared for grave emergencies. But the natives with whom they came in contact proved susceptible to the kindness shown them, and the raids of the fiercer tribes seldom threatened the well guarded settlements near the capital. The farmers were soon enabled to disperse over the district without fear, and built homes conveniently near their farms. These were in some instances of considerable area. An investment of fifty pounds in the original company entitled the shareholders to 200 acres, which would probably be worth upwards of $5,000,000 to-day. This increase measures the value which has been added to the land by the skill and industry of ten generations of English-speaking people. We have only to ascend any one of your numerous elevations and look out over the panorama of pleasant homes spreading out before us to feel that our dispossession of the red men is justified by its results.

The changes symbolized by your growth in population and by the increase in property values are indeed great, yet they have not destroyed the essential character of the district. Dorchester, always the home of well-to-do middle class people, is still the most favorably situated residential section of Boston. The ocean on the east, with its dreamy prospect, its invigorating winds, the river and mountains on the south, the superb country park and boulevard on the west, the teeming city within an easy half hour's ride to the north, offer a variety of advantages which no

other section can dispute with you. Nature has framed one part of Boston in ideal surroundings for a district of comfortable homes, and for once man has wrought in harmony with her promptings.

It was then a happy inspiration which led to the setting aside each year of a day in which this uniquely favored suburb may review its memorable record. We may well spare a brief interval, out of the haste and struggle of our lives, for contemplation of those two centuries and a half, between settlement and annexation, when growth in Dorchester was gradual and changes came almost imperceptibly. In such imaginative reviews we acquire a sense of stability, as when we tread the curious pavement in the vestibule of your High School and learn that it was laid down by Roman masons in old Dorchester in England nearly two thousand years ago. The dignity, the responsibility, of our own lives seem enhanced when we realize of what an estate we are the heirs. We feel ourselves elements in an ancient structure which has endured so long that we may safely predict it will not soon pass away.

I congratulate you, fellow citizens and gentlemen of the Historical Society, upon the revival and more and more general observance of this pleasant anniversary. With pageantry and pastime, public ceremonial and private hospitality, you honor fittingly the virtues of the nation builders of old Dorchester. Every resident of your district should take part in the exercises of this day. Whoever has absorbed its true spirit will have escaped from the transient inter-

ests of the hour and regarded for a while those vaster issues and movements which sketch their shadows across the centuries. I believe he will return to his usual calling a better American for this interruption of his labors. Indeed, I seem to foresee, growing out of these celebrations, the erection in due time of some enduring monument. Perhaps a tower will arise on the crest of this rock — fit pedestal for some Rhine baron's castle — affording views of the whole harbor and the adjacent land, and typifying by its elevation the loftiness of the historical outlook which this day opens to our vision. The hill, at least, should be kept sacred, both for its rugged grandeur, which is intrinsic and imperishable, and for the associations which cluster about it from the earliest days.

After a selection by Post 68, G. A. R., Band, Mayor John F. Fitzgerald was introduced. The Mayor responded briefly, and told how much pleasure it was to him to have seen the celebration such a success.

When the Mayor had finished, Mr. MacCurdy sang "Hail, thou Day of Days," and the exercises were brought to a close by the singing of "America" and the passing of the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted by upward of one thousand persons assembled on the top of the hill:

Resolved, That we express what we believe to be the sentiment of many citizens, not only of Dorchester, but of the whole City of Boston, when we declare that the city should accept the offer made by the Worthington heirs, to dispose of this property at a stipulated price for use as a public park.

We are the more willing to make this declaration in view of the fact that the contemplated purchase has met with the approval

of three of the mayors of Boston and of members of the Park Commission. Let it be consummated, and the voice of approval will be heard from all people who know the value of this property to the City of Boston and the citizens of Dorchester.

The residents this year entered into the spirit of the occasion with more enthusiasm than heretofore, and as a result the decorations were far more elaborate.

This, in a measure, was a tribute to Mayor Fitzgerald, who lived in the district. He had taken an active part in making the day a notable one, and it was mainly because of the interest that he had shown that a liberal appropriation of $2,000 was made for the celebration, which was expended in the following manner:

Historical exercises	$150 00
Yacht races	200 00
Athletic games	200 00
Fireworks	500 00
Baseball	100 00
Water sports	50 00
Dorchester Driving Club	150 00
Parade	300 00
"Contingent" expenses	350 00
Total	$2,000 00

There was little going on in the district during the morning hours, but by noon the streets began to be crowded with those desirous of witnessing the many events scheduled for the afternoon and evening.

The official programme began at one o'clock. At that hour the first of the eleven races on the Franklin Field Speedway between horses owned by the members of the Dorchester Gentlemen's Driving Club took

place. In the eleven events there were thirty entries, and all of the races were for silver cups donated by the city. At the same hour the water sports began off the public pier on Freeport street. These included forty and eighty-yard swimming races for boys and girls, a diving competition, old clothes race, obstacle race, tub race and a plunge for distance. An exhibition of the various strokes used in swimming were given by Professor George de Cost.

At one o'clock the yacht races began at Commercial Point and Savin Hill, with the Boston, Dorchester and Savin Hill Yacht Clubs as the competitors. There were seven classes, in all of which were numerous entries, and there were three prizes in each class. This event was in charge of a committee comprising Alderman Bell, Louis M. Clark, Oliver F. Davenport, Joseph T. Preston, F. W. Merrick, Loring Sears, Allan M. Davis and Hjalmar Lundberg. The judges were well-known yachtsmen of the district.

At three o'clock there was a baseball game on the Dunbar-avenue grounds between the Dorchester and Somerville High School teams, and there was also a baseball game on Franklin Field and the Neponset playground.

In the evening there were band concerts at Franklin Field and at the Neponset playground. The official celebration concluded with a grand display of fireworks on Franklin Field under the direct supervision of Mayor Fitzgerald.

Practically all of the clubs and other organizations, with which the district abounds, kept open house during the afternoon and evening.

THE FOURTH DORCHESTER DAY CELEBRATION

JUNE 8, 1907

CITY COMMITTEE.

FOURTH DORCHESTER DAY CELEBRATION

JUNE 8, 1907

In the preceding chapters a brief account has been given of the origin of Dorchester Day and the proceedings of the three previous celebrations.

It was decided that the 277th anniversary should excel any celebration that had ever taken place in Dorchester since its settlement. This was largely due to the assistance of Mayor Fitzgerald, who had recently removed to Dorchester. It was mainly because of the interest he had shown in this matter that a liberal appropriation of $3,500 was made for the celebration. This year the celebration by the Dorchester Historical Society was independent of the other features of the program. The exercises as prepared by the Society were as follows:

DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

TWO HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SETTLEMENT OF DORCHESTER.

The officers of the Society announce that the celebration of DORCHESTER DAY will be observed in the following manner on Saturday, June 8:

At two o'clock, in front of the "Old Blake House," the "Old Dorchester Milestone" will be formally placed, it having been removed from its ancient resting-place on Hancock street, where it was erected by the Colonial Governor 173 years ago. Mr. James H. Stark will deliver an address. After the address the Society will march to Savin Hill, accompanied by a band of music.

At three o'clock the exercises in the tent at Savin Hill will be of an interesting character. One hundred children from the public schools in the vicinity will sing national airs. Five prizes will be awarded for the best composition on "Old Dorchester" to members of the ninth-grade pupils of the grammar schools. In addition to this feature there will be speeches and music by the band. Admission tickets will be given to the members and their friends.

At 6.30 o'clock a reception will be held in the Library of the Municipal Building on Columbia road.

At seven o'clock there will be a supper served in Gymnasium Hall, followed by speaking and music.

RICHARD C. HUMPHREYS, *President.*
JOHN A. FOWLE, *Secretary.*

COMMITTEES.

The General Committee in charge of the events were James H. Stark, Chairman; the Rev. W. H. Allbright, P. J. McDonald, the Rev. E. R. Shippen, Miss Nellie J. Breed, Richard C. Humphreys.

Milestone Committee. — John A. Fowle, R. F. Delano, James H. Stark.

PROGRAM OF CITY COMMITTEE.

A most interesting program was prepared by the joint committee of the City Council, of which Alderman Tilton S. Bell was the chairman. It was one that gave pleasure to young and old alike, and was as follows:

During the entire day there will be all kinds of sports. In the morning there will be water sports off Savin Hill Beach, and at the Ward 16 ward-room bath-house. In the afternoon there will be yacht racing in Dorchester bay, athletic games on the Town Field, and baseball games for prizes on Franklin Field and throughout the district.

The Dorchester Gentlemen's Driving Club will also have horse races on the Franklin Field Speedway. The club, and in fact practically all of the many clubs of the district, will keep open house during the day.

In the evening there will be band concerts on Franklin Field and in Edward Everett square, followed by fireworks.

The General Committee in charge of the events comprises Aldermen Tilton S. Bell, John E. Baldwin, George H. Battis, William H. Woods and Frederick A. Finigan, Councilmen William C. Clark, John L. Costello, Charles A. Clark, John D. McGivern, William S. Bramhall, William B. Willcutt, James H. Kelly, Edward M. Green and Charles T. Harding.

The sub-committees are:

Yacht Races. — Alderman Bell.

Parade. — Councilmen Harding, Willcutt and Kelly.

Athletic Games. — Councilmen Bramhall, W. C. Clark and McGivern.

Water Sports. — Councilmen Costello, C. A. Clark and Alderman Woods.

Dorchester Gentlemen's Driving Club. — Councilman Green.

The day's celebration was ushered in at six o'clock by the booming of cannon and the ringing of bells, and did not end until midnight. The residents as a whole took more interest in the occasion than heretofore, and as a result the district, especially in the Ashmont and Dorchester Centre sections, was aglow with colors, the decorations on some of the clubhouses and private residences being especially pretty.

Better weather could not have been asked for, the cool weather being in marked contrast to the heat of the year before, when the troops found it difficult to continue over the entire route of parade. Governor Guild and members of his staff lent brilliancy to the occasion by participating in the "Milestone"

exercises at the Old Blake House in Edward Everett square, and riding in the procession.

The exercises of the day were commenced by the Dorchester Historical Society, in accordance with the following program, as issued by the society:

PROGRAM OF THE DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Exercises at Blake House, at 1.45 P.M.

(Owned and occupied by the Dorchester Historical Society, Edward Everett square.)

Welcome by Richard C. Humphreys, President.
Address by His Excellency Curtis Guild, Governor of Massachusetts.
Address by His Honor John F. Fitzgerald, Mayor of Boston.
Replacing of the Old Dorchester Milestone, erected in 1734.
Address on Old Milestones, by James H. Stark, Vice-President.

Invited guests will proceed to Savin Hill in carriages and barges, where historical exercises will be held in the tent on the crest of the hill, on the site of the first fort.

Program of Exercises at Savin Hill.

Music.
Opening Address by Richard C. Humphreys, President of the Dorchester Historical Society.
Singing by One Hundred School Children.
Oration by D. Chauncey Brewer, Esq.
Address by Rev. William H. Allbright, D.D.
Address by Rev. Eugene R. Shippen.
Music.

The exercises at the old Blake House, attendant on the replacing of the old Dorchester Milestone, began at 1.45. In opening the exercises President Richard C. Humphreys said:

COMMITTEE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

ADDRESS

By Richard C. Humphreys,
President of the Dorchester Historical Society

We have gathered here this afternoon to carry out one of the objects for which the Dorchester Historical Society was organized — for it was organized to preserve this Milestone and other landmarks that were in danger of being lost. Standing under the shadow of the Blake House, which is more than two hundred and fifty years old, and was saved by our society, close to the spot where stood the house in which Lieutenant-Governor Oliver lived and where Edward Everett was born, it is not strange that sentiments of patriotism arise in our hearts and urge us to go on with our good work of saving all these things that pertain to old Dorchester; things that will help the rising generation to more fully appreciate what this dear old town has done for them.

Let us not forget that Washington marched along yonder road on his way to Dorchester Heights and that the first settlement of Dorchester was in this immediate vicinity. Think what changes have taken place about here! When I was a boy I used to skate on Newhall's pond where we now stand, and on Andrew's pond, opposite, separated from the

former only by Pond street as it runs to-day. Before 1776, a cow had wandered into the swamp about where the William E. Russell school-house now stands and stuck fast in the mud, so that the wolves from the forest had come down before morning and devoured her.

In my day there was a dense wood from Magnolia street to Blue Hill avenue, where we hunted for wild rabbits. A part of the swamp opposite was filled in by Lieutenant-Governor Oliver's slaves, who carried thither on their heads boxes or baskets of gravel from the higher land around what is now Edward Everett square.

We would express our gratitude to Mr. Parkman Dexter, to Mr. Fowle and Mr. Delano, to whom we are indebted for saving this Milestone.

We deem it fitting to emphasize the importance of saving these landmarks by inviting our Vice-President, James H. Stark, to say a few words to us on "Milestones and Landmarks."

To you, our Chief Magistrate, allow me to express the heartfelt pleasure of the people of Dorchester for the honor conferred upon them by your presence to-day. All honor to our Governor, who has the heart and mind to conceive, the understanding to direct and the hand to execute.

To his Honor our Mayor we give a cordial greeting — a man of ceaseless energy, an eloquent orator and a citizen of Dorchester. The old proverb says, "Poets are born, but orators are made." He is a born orator.

Curtis Guild, Jr.

GOVERNOR OF MASSACHUSETTS.

ADDRESS

BY GOV. CURTIS GUILD, JR.

Governor Guild, the chief executive, as he took his position upon the steps of the famous house, was accorded three cheers and given the Chautauqua salute. The Governor, together with Mayor Fitzgerald, Congressman Joseph F. O'Connell, Senator Leavitt and others, had previously assisted in resetting the old Dorchester Milestone, which had been removed from Hancock street, where it had stood for a number of years, to its new resting-ground. Each with mortar and trowel cemented a stone about the base of the relic.

During the course of his remarks the Governor said that it gave him great pleasure to be present upon the noteworthy occasion and to extend his congratulations for the preservation of the memories and monuments to the distinguished predecessors of old Dorchester. He said that it was a pleasure for him to assist in restoring the old Milestone to its conditions of ancient days that it might ever remind us of the struggles of our fathers.

He took issue with some who declared that the seal of the Commonwealth represented war, claiming that the Indian upon the seal was a hunter and not a warrior; that the words spoken by the Indian

were, "Come over and join with us," at the time when the fathers of the nation left their native shore to set up for themselves a free government in the new world. He said that the hand which is extended upon the seal means simply that it is hostile to tyrants and only draws the sword against those who oppose law, order and peace.

John F. Fitzgerald

ADDRESS

BY MAYOR JOHN F. FITZGERALD

I am very glad indeed to be present to-day at these exercises, to bring to you the greetings of the City of Boston, and to all who have striven for the perpetuation of her glorious history her warmest expressions of gratitude. That the people of Dorchester should take this opportunity of setting up the old Milestone, a silent reminder of the days of old and the achievements of those who have gone before us, is most gratifying. This year, perhaps more than any other in the history of our city, will prove a source of historical inspiration because of the number of landmarks that will be erected by the City of Boston.

One of the chief advantages to be derived from the Old Home Week celebration will be the dedication in different parts of the city of tablets and other memorials commemorating historic sites and historic places. During the present year the Governor and the Mayor united in a request to the Legislature for authority to expend the sum of $15,000 for the preservation of the Old State House, and for the purpose of restoring the building as far as possible to its original appearance. The authority has been granted, and the work will be started this year, to

the great satisfaction of all lovers of Boston, who revere the Old State House, the seat of the Provincial Government.

The history of Boston and its historic sites will always be preserved and honored as long as associations of the character of the Dorchester Historical Society exist, and the traditions of the early settlers who sacrificed so much that we might receive the great advantages which we have will never be forgotten by a grateful people. I am proud, indeed, to be a resident of a district whose past is filled with the achievements of patriotic and honorable men. Coming from a home near the site of the Old North Church, where Paul Revere hung his lanterns, to live among you, many of whose ancestors descended from those who came here in the "Mary and John" two hundred and seventy-seven years ago, I am to-day, as chief executive of the City of Boston, more proud of one thing than any other, and that is, that historic sites, brave deeds, patriotic devotion and love of country have not been confined to any section, but have been found in every nook and corner of the city which now embraces the old town of Dorchester.

Following the Mayor's remarks, President Humphreys called on Vice-President James H. Stark to speak on "Milestones and Landmarks." Mr. Stark said:

ADDRESS

BY JAMES H. STARK

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Dorchester Historical Society:

The occasion of our meeting to-day on this historic spot is to reinstate one of Dorchester's old milestones. It was originally placed on what is now Hancock street, during the administration of Governor Belcher in 1734. This road was the first main thoroughfare in Massachusetts, for it connected Plymouth Colony with that of Massachusetts. It led directly past Governor Belcher's beautiful residence in Milton, and every time the Governor went to Boston he passed this Milestone. It was passed also on that eventful night, March 4, 1776, by Washington and his troops, when they took possession of Dorchester Heights. Three hundred teams loaded with white birch fagots with which to erect forts on the frozen ground silently passed this Milestone on their way from Captain Holman's farm in the upper part of the town — the place selected by Washington himself — to the heights which commanded the town of Boston.

Here the forts were constructed that led to the evacuation of Boston. A little more than a year before one of Boston's most famous sons left forever

his beautiful mansion on the crest of Milton Hill, and passed this Milestone in his carriage, which the following year was confiscated and appropriated to the use of Washington. Governor Hutchinson passed the Milestone for the last time, proceeding to what is now South Boston point. He was rowed to the Castle, the last bit of his beloved Massachusetts earth ever to receive his footfall. From here he embarked in the ship "Minerva," his vast possessions confiscated, fleeing from the wrath of his fellow townsmen. He in a few years died a broken-hearted exile from his native land.

These are a few of the events witnessed by this old Milestone, which this society has rescued from the fate of many that have gone before it. The attention of the proper authorities should be called to the preservation of these historic landmarks. It should be the duty of the superintendent of streets, and a penalty imposed for their injury or removal by any person. A few years ago the most noted Milestone in the vicinity of Boston was rescued from destruction — the Parting Stone erected in 1744 by Paul Dudley near the Norfolk House, at the corner of Washington and Centre streets and Eliot square, Roxbury. This old stone undoubtedly pointed the way to what was once considered the termination of civilization. A gentleman driving in from Brookline a few years ago missed this well-remembered landmark. Leaving his carriage, he searched in a heap of rubbish and found the old stone. Men with tip-carts were taking away the dirt and stones, prepar-

ing to erect a new building. He paid a man a dollar to sit on the stone and to see that no one touched it till he could get back from City Hall, where the Mayor at once gave orders to have the stone replaced. That was all that saved the famous Parting Stone from destruction.

Milestones are of very ancient origin. "Mile" is derived from the Roman "milliare," which contained a thousand steps of five Roman feet each, the pace or step being the length of the step made by the foot. The Roman mile is 1,617 yards, which is modified in England and the United States to 1,760 yards. This measurement was adopted in England in the thirty-fifth year of Queen Elizabeth's reign.

At the conclusion of Mr. Stark's address the party entered barges and carriages and were driven to Savin Hill.

CELEBRATION AT SAVIN HILL

On arriving on the crest of Savin Hill, where formerly stood the first fort erected in that vicinity, there was a selection by the band, after which President Humphreys called the gathering to order, saying:

"Again we have invited you to this memorable spot to celebrate Dorchester Day. We congratulate you all that our Mayor and others in authority have assured us that there is a good prospect of saving this beautiful plateau with its historic interest for a public park. We wish to make Dorchester an example to surrounding towns to save their historic spots, their milestones and landmarks. We wish to cultivate the historic spirit in the rising generation and to make our young people realize that Governor Winthrop, the Mathers, Roger Clap and other early settlers of Dorchester represented the great historic forces that sowed seeds of Puritanism in this good old town which spread all along the shores of Massachusetts bay, and that Dorchester was the very centre of many of the most noted scenes in the beginning of New England. We hope the time will come when the "Dorchester spirit" will be synonymous with patriotism and a reverence for historic places, when it will be no longer necessary for us to

worry over the danger of the destruction of the Old South Meeting House, the Old State House and other historic buildings. If the John Hancock House was standing to-day it would not be in danger of being torn down, such has been the growth of this spirit which we are trying to cultivate.

"The placing of the tessellated pavement in the vestibule of the Dorchester High School at the Talbot avenue entrance carries us back well nigh two thousand years. This pavement, which was walked upon by Julius Cæsar's legions, if not by the ruler himself, is to-day trodden upon by hundreds of the boys and girls of our Dorchester High School, and if they are thoughtful they can receive an inspiration that will aid them in their study of ancient history."

Next on the program was the singing of national airs by one hundred school children.

ORATION

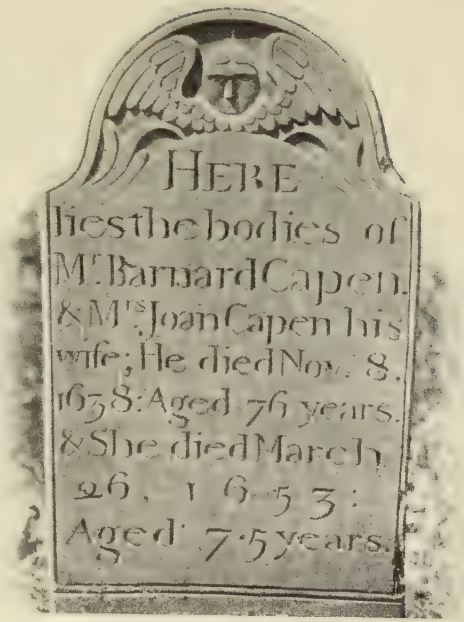
By Daniel Chauncey Brewer

The most famous of the living officers of the Civil War, Major-General Howard, has recently said that the principles of our government were founded upon the family, the church, the town meeting and the public school.

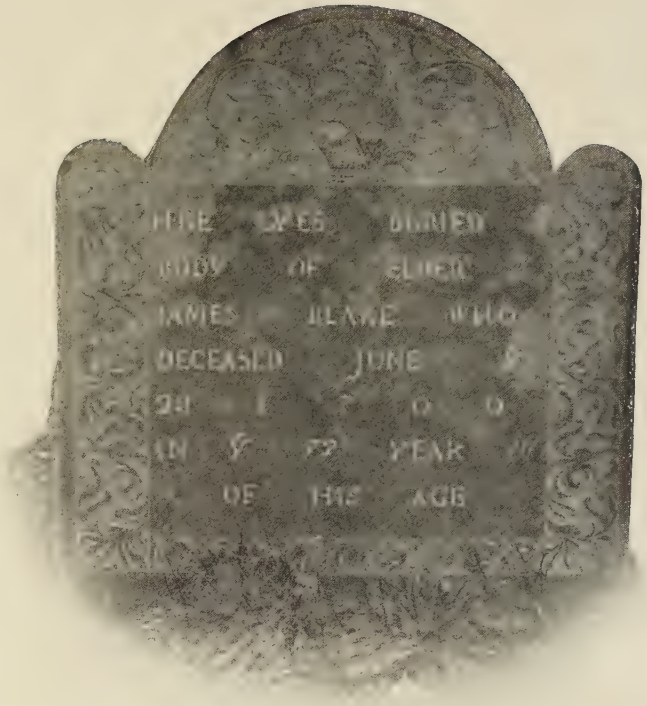
This being so, it is fortunate, in a time when our fathers' ideals are obscured by involved modern conditions, that we can come back for inspiration to scenes that are full of suggestion. Here, in the beginning of our national history, the family rang true and the church (I speak of congregations of men worshipping God without regard to polity or creed) was sublime. Here the town meeting and the public school first crystallized into form; and gathered here to-day we naturally select for loving review the story of Dorchester's heroic or golden age.

That classic period rightly commences with the sailing of the "Mary and John" from Plymouth, England, in 1630, with the first consignment of the Massachusetts colony.

That the little vessel of four hundred tons, no larger than a Gloucester fishing vessel, was seventy days on her way, is generally known. The suffering on board no one pretends to imagine. Whatever



THE GRAVE OF BARNARD CAPEN.
Said to be the oldest marked grave in America.
(Original stone in New England Historic Genealogical Society Library.)



THE GRAVE OF JAMES BLAKE
Who built the Blake House, owned and occupied by the Dorchester Historical Society.

GRAVESTONES FROM THE OLD DORCHESTER BURIAL GROUND.

horror befell them, the one hundred and forty-five valiant souls that formed the colonizing party were undivided; there was a brave and united church, and brave and united families in which the tender women and the children deserve even greater credit for fortitude than do the men.

On the 30th of May they were off Nantasket, where the skipper anchored (unheeding every protest), on the ground that he was at the mouth of the Charles river, the place to which his cargo was consigned. How the pioneers reached Dorchester is now immaterial. There were explorations made by pinnace, and sage conferences, which resulted finally in the choice of a home.

Near us, at the Town Meeting square, they raised their first blockhouse, which also served as church and school, and, running south from this rallying spot, they hewed their first lane (now known as Pleasant street) out of the forest.

Along this road, referred to later as Settlers' street, and in the immediate vicinity, possibly along the path now called Savin Hill avenue, which led to "Rock Hill" (where we are now gathered), on which a colony fortress was soon to frown, the first houses were builded, none of them more than a half mile from the blockhouse, for better protection, and each surrounded with a half acre of yard or garden.

Such was the settlement. Shortly after the initial step was taken, Cottage street was laid out along its present lines, to be later extended to Roxbury; and the path to the marshes, where, as in other New

England communities, the cattle were pastured, became a road. It is now Pond street.

These accomplishments, together with the dedication of the old graveyard on Stoughton and Boston streets, with which many generations of their descendants have been familiar, and the setting aside of the level plain which still borders Pleasant street, and which was immediately adjacent to their meeting-house, for a training field, mark the close of the first period of the settlement life.

Such were the bare outlines of the stage on which the founders of Dorchester played their part.

To secure the accessories, to understand the people, you must get a glimpse of the England that nourished and the New England that welcomed them.

Let us bridge time and the seas to the home and the reign of Queen Bess, and more particularly let us make our way to the ports which fringe the southwestern countries.

Now we understand the spirit which exalted our ancestry. Here live and move the people who are to make England great and our democracy possible. Every town and hamlet has, or has had, in the past, at least one representative who helped Admiral Howard repel the great Armada, or who sailed with Drake, Frobisher, Hawkins and other brave captains to the new lands for trading and the fisheries.

As a consequence, the love of liberty which characterizes these adventurous spirits who have known freedom from restraint characterizes also the towns that they inhabit. A grain of leaven has leavened

the whole lump, and it is as natural to be brave, out-spoken, broad-minded in the southwest of England, at the period of which we speak, as it was for an Athenian in the time of Pericles to be cultivated.

To this people, thrilled with the new thought that is arousing Great Britain, has come the acts of uniformity, dictating the method of worship for Catholic and Protestant alike.

Do you wonder that high-minded men and women, of such a mould as has been indicated, dared to protest against such dictation, and preferred to suffer what amounted to severance from home and kindred for conscience sake?

Further, do you not get in the light of this review the meaning of Governor Stoughton's words, spoken about 1670, of the Dorchester pioneers whom he had previously known, "They were wheat garnered out of all England."

Whatever our thought, the causes and conditions given filled the first vessel that Governor Winthrop sent to the shores of Boston harbor with serious-faced people.

Returning now to this side of the Atlantic, imagine the ship's company as it takes possession of these lands so familiar to us. Both sexes are soberly garbed. The men wear hats bell-crowned and formal, but perfectly adapted to the belted doublets and short breeches which seemed fashioned for people of a melancholy mood; while pelobeers (straps hung with wooden cartridges) are caught about the shoulder of each, and a gun of curious pattern is

either carried or lies conveniently at hand. The women are modestly gowned with white kerchief and cap.

Both men and women are sagacious, courageous and determined. Among them are many of good family and fortune. Some of the men have been schooled at the English universities in a day when learning is rare, and others have achieved reputation as soldiers in the continental wars. Unobtrusive in dress and bearing, jeered at by the frivolous as dissenters and purists, they are, from our standpoint, as distinguished a group as ever disembarked from an English ship.

To a people less heroic the new world's wilderness would surely have proved more than depressing. Let their scouting parties pierce ever so far inland and climb the loftiest hills, there was nothing to the west but forest pressing upon forest.

There was a storm-swept ocean before them, coursed by pirates and Spaniards. There was an ocean of trees behind, in whose shadows lurked mysterious savages and dreadful beasts.

To realize something of the natural awe which must have enfolded them as they moved along the trails that their axes blazed, we have only to refer to an ancient chronicle which recites: "To the north of Boston there is often heard a horrid roaring which is not unlike that of lions and demons."

This reference introduces us to the unseen world, which was very real to that generation, and which closed round about the people of Dorchester with

chilling effect. Did the wind roar and whistle in the tree tops or around the corners of their rudely built two-room shelters — who knew whether the very spirits of darkness were abroad or not? Did a twig catch the cloak of the returning yeoman as he threaded his way home from his outlying farm through dense thickets — it might be a witch or a demon!

Amid such surroundings, the clearing of the woodland and the tillage of the ground must have presented sufficient difficulties to absorb the infant colony's attention. Nevertheless these exceptional men found time also for such an ordering of their affairs as signified much for posterity. We find in the old town records these entries:

"Monday, October 8, 1633. Imprimis. It is ordered that for the general good and well ordering of the affairs of the plantation, there shall be every Monday before the court by 8 o'clock P.M. and presently by the beating of the drum, a general meeting of the inhabitants of the plantation at the meeting-house, then to settle and set down such orders as may tend to the general good as aforesaid, and every man to be bound thereby without gainsaying or resistance."

This was notable legislation, and it was followed May 20, 1639, by a hardly less remarkable ordinance, viz.: The adoption of a scheme which, depriving the settlers of the income of Thompson's Island, owned by the town, and which might properly have been used to meet urgent expenses, and

devoting the same to the support of a free school, taxed every inhabitant in the interest of education.

Mr. President, the learned of all ages have extolled the democratic form of government as ideal, permitting such modifications as appear in our republic when necessity requires, but have also noted that such a government can not exist without virtue and education.

The men of the "Mary and John" were not content to theorize. They first established local government as we know it, in which every citizen has a voice (it was quickly copied by Boston and Cambridge and the neighboring towns), and they buttressed it by virtue and education.

From these beginnings, more directly than from the compact in the "Mayflower" or the Jamestown precedent, were evolved the civic institutions which have made the United States great, prosperous and a pattern for all peoples.

The lives these devoted colonists lived, and the ordinances they framed, guaranteed for them good government and personal liberty. If we of this generation are to enjoy the same privileges, we, too, must be virtuous as a people and maintain the same institutions.

The peril is "lest we forget," that through autocracy or dictatorial leagues we endanger liberty, or that by license we forfeit equitable government.

How shall we prevent this? I know of no better way in which this community can aid than by seeking to perpetuate the memory of the Dorchester

company by raising a monument which shall record their accomplishments for humanity.

Such a memorial should be as notable as the artist and the architect can make it, that with its lesson it may compel the attention not only of residents of Boston, but of the multitudes of our fellow countrymen from every corner of the land who annually visit this city. The municipality would honor itself by such a project; the State, which takes its name from the Massachusetts Bay Colony, might with propriety lend its aid; and the descendants of these men, now a mighty multitude, many of whom have amassed great wealth, would perform a filial and praiseworthy duty by joining in such an enterprise.

At Plymouth, there stands a splendid statue in recognition of the virtues of the Pilgrim Fathers.

At Jamestown, the fleets of the world are met to applaud the act of the founders of Virginia.

Let us now have a suitable monument to tell the story of the foundation of the town meeting and the public school.

The Rev. W. H. Allbright was the next speaker. He spoke on the "Enjoyment of History."

ADDRESS

BY THE REV. W. H. ALLBRIGHT

Mr. President and Friends of Dorchester:

I have here a manuscript on Dorchester history, but I will not use it. Instead, I propose to address myself to these pupils of our public schools, whose bright, eager faces are the inspiration of this occasion. Their presence here indicates an interest in this Dorchester Day celebration, especially in this historical and educational part of the program. Some, no doubt, will prefer the pageant and parade; others will be glad to get their feet under the tables this evening and enjoy the prandial and post-prandial feast. Many of us hope to be there. But, for the present, these exercises command us.

I am specially glad to participate in them for several reasons.

First, because I was born and lived for twenty years in the land whence the Pilgrims and Puritans came. I have only one grudge against them. It is that they were two hundred years ahead of me. It was not fair. They ought to have waited; I should surely have been one of them, though my name and achievement might not have added any special lustre to their memorable exploit.

Then, secondly, I am glad to participate in this observance because fifty years ago the church which

I have the honor to serve was planted on the soil which their feet first trod. Right there, next to the Athenæum building, stood Pilgrim Church for nearly a quarter of a century. To be sure, we are not mentioned in the history of good old Dorchester; but what matters, we have made ourselves known without the aid of the historian. Some churches need factitious and outside helps; we have made something of a record without much advertising.

Then, thirdly, I am glad to be identified with the progressive life of our district. I have lived here longer than in any other place. In England, I lived in town and village. Here I have lived full seventeen years, so long that I am the oldest pastor, in point of service, in this part of our city. Mr. Shippen is not young in years, or knowledge, but I recall two of his predecessors in the historic Meeting House Hill pulpit. It is becoming in us all, as citizens of this part of Boston, to cherish a just pride in its traditions and achievements; its institutions and its homes; its people and their material and moral welfare.

Speaking of our history, I may remind you that there are four things essential to a true interpretation and enjoyment of history:

1. Knowledge. To enjoy history we must be informed. Our pleasure is in proportion to our acquaintance with the men and movements of our land and age. Here it cannot be said "that ignorance is bliss."

Let me encourage you scholars of our schools to the fond pursuit of historical knowledge. Do not

say, give me fiction; let me be lulled to rest with a novel. All novel reading is not to be discouraged, but there is so much that needs to be known of a past to which we are all debtors, of the men and women who cleared for us a track and made the way of our feet all glorious. I beg you to read history — the history of your own country — with avidity and relish. You have no claim to social recognition, and you will not get it, if you prefer to remain uncultivated and uninformed as to the great epochs and events of your country's history.

2. The next essential to enjoyment of history is truth.

It is so easy for any and all of us to be narrow-minded — to be partial and prejudiced in our views of men and movements. What we want is a purpose to be true to the facts, even though they cut like the knife of a surgeon into the sensitive and sore places.

If our schisms are more to us than the truth, then we are a bigoted and blighted nation. Give us truth at all cost! This should be our imperative. This will enable us to be just to one another and honorable to those who made the way for our coming.

3. I mention imagination as a prerequisite to the enjoyment of history. Imagination is that which gives color and life to the literature of the past. By it we can rehabilitate the scenes and surroundings of the past, reanimate and reclothe the people who once trod these hills and vales. I seemed to

see them in their quaint dress and dwellings as our friend, Mr. Brewer, was speaking. They lived again before me in very flesh and blood. Imagination lends enchantment to history; it affords color and vivacity. It is worth cultivating. You can clip the wings of an eagle, and prevent his soaring too high, but if he has no wings you cannot aid him in his flight toward the sun.

Then, finally, I mention appreciation. This is necessary if we would get any good out of history. Some persons are everlastingly dinging at the foibles and faults of their forebears. God pity them! Would that they could see themselves as others see them.

It is all too common for newspapers and politicians to sneer at our Pilgrim and Puritan ancestors. If they knew how much they advertise their own limitations in so doing, they would desist. What splendid eulogies have been written on Puritan and Pilgrim character and achievement. Who, then, are these cheap statesmen that dare to defy and defame the verdict of history! Appreciation is a rare faculty. It can be acquired. Let us all covet it. It will enable us to see more of good in each other, and to be sure that all the good of this world is ours if only we will appropriate, appreciate and enjoy it.

The Rev. Eugene R. Shippen, pastor of the First Parish Church, Meeting House Hill, was the last speaker of the afternoon.

ADDRESS

BY THE REV. EUGENE R. SHIPPEN

The Rev. Mr. Shippen spoke on "Dorchester Poetry." Emphasizing the second word on the Dorchester seal, "Literis," Mr. Shippen read specimens of poetry written in Dorchester in the seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The first example was taken from the "Bay Psalm Book," published in 1639, in the preparation of which the Rev. Richard Mather had an important part. Except for the rhymes, the hymn read had no element of poetry, being most wretched stuff from a literary point of view, yet valuable as reflecting the taste of the day. The Dorchester settlers were evidently men of common sense, not of uncommon sense or imagination. It is difficult to account for their literary crudity, however, when we remember that Milton's "L'Allegro," "Comus" and "Lycidas" had all been written within the first ten years after the landing of the Dorchester settlers.

The eighteenth century selection was a specimen of tombstone poetry, grandiloquent epitaphs being characteristic of the times. The next century brought with it genuine culture and a much higher literary standard. An ode written by Miss Eliza T. Clapp for

Eugene R. Shippen

PASTOR OF FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF DORCHESTER

the 250th anniversary of the First Parish was read, one of its noble verses being as follows:

> But guard us, O thou living Lord,
> If, lost our silken lines among,
> We miss the high, heroic chord
> That through their manly accents rung.

This verse gave occasion to Mr. Shippen to dwell upon the need of the times, the "high, heroic chord" of independence, social and political, without which all our boasted progress would amount to nothing.

In closing, the speaker read from the original manuscript lines written for Dorchester Day by Mrs. William H. Allbright, wife of the popular minister of Pilgrim Church.

DORCHESTER'S PIONEERS.

By Mary E. Allbright.

Out from the storms of the sea, fog clinging to sail and spar,
A small, quaint craft, like a ghost in white, glides over the harbor bar.

Onward she comes, straight on, to her fate of woe or weal;
Dauntless, staunch as a hero's soul, from her top-sail down to her keel.

She hails from a distant land; on her deck are the pioneers;
And the fog that wraps her 'round is the mist of near three hundred years.

A look — and she fades away! There is nothing but sea and shore.
'Twas a glimpse from the scenes of a vanished past; — a vision, and nothing more.

That was our ship, good neighbors, gathering here to-day,
That was our ship, the "Mary and John," and that was Dorchester bay.

Those were our sires and mothers; — women and men of God,
Who had left behind them every inch of ground which their feet had trod.

Here on this soil they landed; found what their souls had sought;
Here it was that they lived, and here that they planned and wrought.

Churches and schools they reared, of the best that they could give
Simple and unadorned, like the lives that they had to live.

Out of their dim ideals, and out of their "hope forlorn,"—
Out of their toils and tears our happier lives were born.

Theirs was an empty cup which for us has been blessed and filled;
They saw in dreams the statelier walls which it has been ours to build.

Shall we forget them, friends? Shall only their names be read
On the old gray stones in the graveyard there, the sleeping place of the dead?

Forget them? No, they are ours! They are part of our joy and pride.
What matters it that centuries have passed since they lived and died?

The answer comes with a thrill, although our voices be mute;
With one accord, we join our souls in a reverent salute.

"All hail! All hail!" we cry, across the gulf of the years;
"Honor and love and praise! All hail to the pioneers!"

After the speechmaking the prizes were awarded to the six school children who had written the best essays on the history of Dorchester by the Rev. W. H. Allbright.

The pupils of the William E. Russell, Mather and Edward Everett schools had prepared essays, and those receiving prizes were Florence E. Turner, Arthur A. Donovan, Francis Grosscup, Frank Daly, Svea Brink and Louis Goler.

The exercises were brought to a close by the singing of "America."

YACHT RACE OFF THE SAVIN HILL YACHT CLUB HOUSE.

YACHT RACES

Skippers, yacht owners and yachtsmen in general, together with their friends, assembled at the Savin Hill Yacht Club quarters and witnessed as fine a series of races as has ever been run on the course opposite the quarters of that organization. At ten A.M. sharp the whistle on the official boat, the tug "Cormorant," announced the start of the class A boats, and the racing continued until five P.M.

The winners of the races, which were held under the management of the Savin Hill Yacht Club, the Dorchester Yacht Club and the Boston Yacht Club, are as follows:

Class A. — Yachts over 32 feet and under 45 feet, over-all length. — First, Sentinel; owner, G. A. Crawford; corrected time, 1 hour 3 minutes 27 seconds. Second, Dorchen; owner, R. C. Goudy; corrected time, 1 hour 7 minutes 44 seconds. Third, Eleanor; owner, George F. Sawyer; corrected time, 1 hour 7 minutes 28 seconds.

Class B. — Yachts over 21 feet and not over 32 feet, over-all length. — First, Goblin; owner, R. M. Lothrop; corrected time, 1 hour 5 minutes 11 seconds. Second, Dorcher; owner, A. W. Finley; corrected time, 1 hour 6 minutes 9 seconds. Third, Sintram; owner, Harry B. Green; corrected time, 1 hour 7 minutes 45 seconds.

Class D. — Cape cat boats, according to the Cape Cat Boat Association rules. — First, Arawak; owner, H. C. Nickerson; corrected time, 1 hour 31 minutes 51 seconds. Second, Almira; owner, J. M. Whittemore; corrected time, 1 hour 35 minutes 34 seconds. Third, Solitaire; owner, C. C. Collins; corrected time, 1 hour 39 miuutes 34 seconds.

Class E. — For all yachts 21 feet and under, over-all length. — First, Teaser; owner, Joseph Vaux; corrected time, 1 hour 15 minutes 14 seconds. Second, Emerell; owner, S. Harding; corrected time, 1 hour 16 minutes 11 seconds. Third, Swastika; owner, G. H. Murray; corrected time, 1 hour 21 minutes 35 seconds.

The judges of the course were Frank W. Merrick, Commodore of the S. H. Y. C.; Hjalmar Lundberg, Commodore of the D. Y. C.; Louis M. Clark, Allan M. Davis, Charles F. White, Bernard Martin, Edward J. Wynde, William S. Mace, Thomas F. MacManus, O. F. Davenport, Loring Sears, William H. Besarick and L. P. Sears.

WATER SPORTS

The water sports held at Savin Hill beach proved a very interesting feature of the Dorchester Day program. One of the most interesting events of the sport, and which aroused the spectators to a great degree of enthusiasm, was the victory of little Rosa Pitonof of Dorchester in the fifty-yard race for girls under sixteen years of age. The smallest girl in the race, she won easily from the other four entrants. George Connelly won the first race of the morning, that of fifty yards for boys under sixteen, and Peter McHugh was second. In the quarter-mile race for boys over sixteen, William Pendergast came in first and John F. McGee second. The next race on the program was that for girls under sixteen for a distance of fifty yards, which was won by Rosa Pitonof, with Catherine Berlo second. Buddy Ryan was first and William O'Brien second in the fifty-yard contest for boys over sixteen. The quarter-mile for girls over sixteen was won by Lillie Berlo, with her sister, Anna Berlo, second.

The last contest on the program was that of diving, each boy making three dives. Adolp Pitonof won the first prize and Ernest McLaughlin second. The prizes offered were silver cups. After the races Peter S. McNally, who had charge of the events, gave an exhibition of trick and fancy swimming.

THE PARADE

The parade was one of the leading features of the day. It was witnessed by more than 75,000 persons. The decorations along the route were unusually fine and profuse, and more elaborate than in many years. Many new devices were displayed, while from every flag-staff flags snapped in the breeze all day. Red, white and blue bunting was seen everywhere.

In Peabody square the decorations were unusually fine and profuse. Engine Company No. 46 had completely covered their house with the tri-colored bunting. The decorations of the Ashmont Club were also noticeably attractive and striking.

Among the prominent displays in the square were those of the Ashmont Real Estate Exchange, Ross Dry Goods Company, Stevens' upholstery establishment, the Hopkins news stand, J. A. Hart & Co.'s store, the real estate offices of J. W. Paul, C. E. Weymouth's dry goods establishment, E. W. Burleigh's real estate offices, the drug store of A. H. Tripp, E. P. Jacques' grocery store and the Casey shoe stores.

STORES AND CLUBS GAY.

Both the Columbus House, Pearl and Pleasant streets, and the Dorchester Municipal Building were most tastefully decorated for the day.

Every building in Codman square was decorated, those especially noticeable for the excellence of design being Thomas Tobin's news store, Garland & Sons' grocery and meat market, the drug store of E. W. Higgins, the Dorchester Gentlemen's Driving Club-house, the drug store of G. E. Coleman, the Dorchester post-office and the grocery store of Morris Bros.

On Melville avenue the houses of the Rev. Dr. Little and Benjamin O'Neill attracted much attention by the decorative schemes with which they were adorned. Also noticeable for the taste of the decorations were the Wheeler, Wallace, Field, Terhune, Watson and Sullivan estates.

Waldeck street was ablaze with color, and flags were flaunting everywhere. Prominent decorations were those of Charles F. Riordan, the Galvin estate, C. J. Flynn, the McDonald estate, W. J. Paul, the Whitmarsh drug store, Johnson's creamery and the Geneva Avenue market.

On Harvard street, equally patriotic were the displays and color schemes. The O'Connell estate was prettily decorated, as were the drug establishment of Harrington & Teele, Fink's grocery, the Colonial pharmacy and Warden & Co.'s grocery.

At Mayor Fitzgerald's home in Welles avenue, flags and bunting were so grouped and displayed as to make most effective and striking decorations. Conspicuous between two large American flags was a great Irish flag.

At Upham's Corner, the buildings were hard to see for the rich and lavish display of flags and bunting.

Aside from the Columbus Club and Municipal Building and the Old Blake House in Edward Everett square, all of the other buildings were prettily adorned.

Mayor Fitzgerald, accompanied by Councilman Charles T. Harding of the parade committee, called for Governor Guild at the State House snortly after twelve o'clock, and in an automobile went out to Dorchester. The Governor was taken to the Mayor's home in Welles avenue, where he was entertained until time to start for the exercises in the Old Blake House. At the conclusion of these the Governor was taken to Peabody square, where the parade formation took place.

The procession formed on Talbot and Welles avenues, and started shortly after 2.30 o'clock, passing over this route: Peabody square to Ashmont street, to Ocean street, to Welles avenue, to Washington street, to Melville avenue, to Waldeck street, to Geneva avenue, to Bowdoin street, to Harvard street, to Franklin Field. Here the procession was reviewed by Chief Marshal Pray and his staff, after which the soldiers were dismissed. Then followed a band concert by the consolidated bands, and military evolutions by the Roxbury Horse Guards and the Lancers, and a gun drill by the Naval Brigade.

There was a large crowd of spectators at the starting point, and the streets were well lined along the route, while enthusiastic groups applauded the marchers liberally from decorated verandas, and wherever halts were made citizens were ready with refreshments, which were distributed along the line.

THE ROSTER OF THE PARADE.

Mounted Police.

Chief Marshal, Lieutenant Dudley M. Pray.

Chief of Staff, Captain C. H. Keene, Fifth Infantry.

Staff — Lieutenant Charles Carter, Commissary; Lieutenant Commander D. H. Sughrue, Surgeon; Captain F. A. Walker, Captain Frank Chubbuck, General W. H. H. Gary, Captain E. F. O'Dowd, Lieutenant H. C. Connerais, Captain David Hanson, Lieutenant-Colonel John Perrins, Jr., Lieutenant George A. Wardwell.

First Company of Infantry, Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, as Escort to Chief Marshal.

Post 68 Band; G. A. Betteney, Leader.

Eighty-Ninth Company, Coast Artillery.

Seventh Company, Coast Artillery.

Company A, United States Marines.

Company of Bluejackets from Warships.

Poole's Band; L. E. Poole, Leader.

Signal Corps, M. V. M., in Command of Lieutenant F. B. Edwards and Lieutenant R. E. Belcher.

Ambulance Corps, M. V. M., Lieutenant E. W. Shinn Commanding.

Provisional Battalion, Fifth Infantry, M. V. M.

Company L, Sixth Infantry, M. V. M., Captain G. W. Braxton, Lieutenants W. B. Gould, W. S. Carpenter.

Provisional Battalion, Coast Artillery, M. V. M.

Roundy's Band; A. B. Roundy, Leader.

Battalion Massachusetts Naval Brigade, Lieutenant D. H. Goodrich Commanding; Lieutenant E. R. Peale, Adjutant.

Company A, Lieutenant F. G. Robinson.

Company B, Lieutenant J. H. Marks.

Company C, Lieutenant W. A. Lewis.

Company I, Lieutenant J. B. Blood.

Troop D, Roxbury Horse Guards (Mounted), Captain E. A. Coburn Commanding; Lieutenants C. A. Schmitz and W. L. Swan.

Troop A, National Lancers, Captain F. A. Robinson, Commanding; Lieutenants J. S. Barrows, D. Appleton.

Letter Carriers' Band.

Post 68, G. A. R., W. B. Robinson Commanding.

John Drum Camp, U. S. W. V.

Camp 26, U. S. W. V.
Camp 6, U. S. W. V.
Camp 4, U. S. W. V.
Camp 8, U. S. W. V.
Camp 30, S. of V.
Commander A. J. Nott.
Senior Vice-Commander E. Wallingford.
Junior Vice-Commander A. L. Gardiner.
Camp 51, S. of V.
Camp 74, S. of V.
Camp 9, S. of V.
Marathon Company, Uniformed Rank, Knights of Pythias.
Captain Robert Thurlow.
Lieutenant H. T. Pond.
Dorchester Letter Carriers.
Ninth Regiment Veteran Association.
Captain J. C. Clark.
Adjutant Fred Robinson.
Boston School Cadets Drum Corps.
Dorchester High Cadets, Major Crosby Commanding.
Dudley School Cadets.
Boys' Brigade Drum Corps.
Provisional Regiment, U. B. B. A.
Neponset Company.
Winthrop Company.
Wollaston Company.
Upham's Corner Company.
Roxbury Company.
Milton Company.
Mattapan Company.
Romsey Street Company.
Atlantic Company.
Everett Company.
Carriages containing invited guests.
Engine Company No. 18.
Hook and Ladder Company No. 23.
Ambulances.

While the evolutions were going on Chief Marshal Pray was entertaining his staff and guests at luncheon at Hendrie's, directly opposite the field.

ATHLETIC GAMES

Fully three thousand people gathered at the town field at Field's Corner to see the athletic events. At 2.30 P.M. the sports started with the 100-yard dash, which included forty-five entries, the race being run off in heats. The winners and time of the different races are as follows:

100-yard dash: winner's time, $10\frac{1}{5}$ seconds — H. Wade, C. G. A., first; Fred Burns, Boston Latin School, second.

440-yard run: winner's time, 57 seconds — P. D. Fogg, Dorchester High, first; F. E. Miles, C. Y. M. C. A., second.

One-mile run: winner's time, 4 minutes $50\frac{2}{5}$ seconds — J. J. Sullivan, Catholic Y. M. C. A., first; C. Anderson, Swedish G. C., second.

880-yard run: winner's time, 2 minutes $12\frac{3}{4}$ seconds — F. P. Sheehan, first; Samuel L. Bryant, N. Y. M. C. A., second.

Team race: Dorchester High *vs.* Roxbury High; won by Dorchester High.

Team race by two teams from the Columbia road gymnasium: won by team captained by William O'Brien.

100-yard dash for boys over fifteen years: A. W. Davidson, first; J. F. Cullen, second.

50-yard dash for boys under fifteen years: Louis Neiderberger, first; William Ormsby, second.

50-yard dash for girls under fifteen years: Ethel Harwood, first; Mary Mahan, second.

220-yard dash for boys under fifteen years: Louis Neiderberger, first; Harold Ryan, second.

220-yard dash for girls under fifteen years: Ethel Harwood, first; Alice O'Keefe, second.

Running high jump: A. L. Ross, C. G. A., first, 6 feet $\frac{1}{2}$ inch; W. Oesting, second, 5 feet $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

The games were run off under the supervision of Councilman William S. Bramhall, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, and the following officials supervised the field events: Referee, Peter F. Kelley; Timers, William O'Brien, James L. Walsh, M. R. Smith and Frank X. McGrath; Judges, George De Cost, Oscar Pearson, Thomas J. Riley, Thomas L. Owen and Frank Pendergast; Inspectors, James J. Dolan, John J. Lalley, Frank MacDonnell and D. J. Murphy; Clerk of Course, John J. Haverty; Assistant Clerk of Course, William Hines; Scorer, T. F. Conrick; Starter, Joseph MacNamara; Announcer, William Smith; Awarder of Prizes, Councilman William S. Bramhall; Manager, John A. Lane.

HISTORIC SPOTS LOCATED

The Dorchester Historical Society located many historic spots, which were suitably marked by Edward W. McGlenen, City Registrar. During Old Home Week they were visited by many people from all parts of the country. The inscriptions were as follows:

[Cottage street, near Town Meeting square.]

FIRST MEETING HOUSE.

(1631–1646.)

Near this spot the first meeting house was erected in 1631, used for town meetings and the first school. The second meeting house, 1646–1678, stood on site close by.

[East Cottage street, near Dorchester avenue.]

Near this spot stood the home of Major-General Humphrey Atherton, 1635–1661.

[Edward Everett square.]

On this site stood the mansion of Robert Oliver, erected in 1745; afterwards the residence of his son, Thomas Oliver, Lieutenant-Governor. Here Edward Everett was born, April 11, 1794.

[Boston street.]

This marks the location of the American Lines extending from the South Bay to the Old Harbor, occupied by the right wing of Washington's army during the siege of Boston, 1775–1776.

[Corner Savin Hill avenue and Pleasant street.]

Here was the home of Israel Stoughton, 1630–1645; also of his son, Gov. William Stoughton, 1631–1701; and of his nephew, Lieutenant-Governor William Tailor, 1702–1732.

[Site of the First Fort, 1634.]

SAVIN HILL.

"The 6th of January, Mooneday 1633. It is ordered that there shall be a fort made upon the Rocke above Mr. Johnsons."

[Savin Hill.]

Site of two buildings used as barracks by Washington's soldiers during the siege of Boston, 1775–1776; one still standing.

[Savin Hill avenue.]

Near this spot was built the home of Roger Ludlow, the first Deputy-Governor of Massachusetts.

[Savin Hill avenue.]

During the war of 1812, entrenchments were constructed around the southeast side of "Old Hill" on the bluff near the water side. The magazine was erected near this place. Here the Indians dwelt before the white man came.

BRIDGE AT LOWER MILLS.

Here, on the banks of the Neponset, Israel Stoughton built the first grist mill in New England in 1633; the first powder mill was erected in 1675; the first paper mill in 1728; and the first chocolate mill in 1765.

FIRST BURYING PLACE IN DORCHESTER, TOMB OF GOV. WILLIAM STOUGHTON

FIREWORKS DISPLAY

On Franklin Field over 10,000 people gathered to witness the display of fireworks, which was far more successful than the display last year. The illumination of the words "Dorchester, June 8th," in a large arch, won great applause from those on the field, as did also a "Teddy Bear," which performed amusing stunts in the air.

From the balconies of the Hendrie Casino, Mayor John F. Fitzgerald and a specially invited party of four hundred saw the great display, which was the finest ever given on a Dorchester Day.

The Mayor was accompanied by his wife and children, while in the party were Aldermen Bell, Baldwin, Whelton and Finigan, Councilmen Harding, Costello, Green, Bramhall and Clark, Mayor's Secretary Richard F. Field, Congressman Joseph F. O'Connell, Building Commissioner Charles Logue, Superintendent of Bridges Patrick F. McDonald, Superintendent of Streets James H. Doyle and Superintendent of Public Buildings James F. Nolan.

At eight o'clock Edward Everett square was thronged with people to hear the concert given by the Boston Municipal Band from a large stand built in the center of the square.

At eight o'clock there was a promenade concert at the Savin Hill Yacht Club, which was attended by all the principal residents of Savin Hill.

The closing feature of the day was the reception and banquet given by the Dorchester Historical Society in the Municipal Building on Columbia road.

BANQUET

In the evening, the Historical Society held a reception and banquet in the Municipal Building on Columbia road.

At 6.30 the Receiving Committee, Richard C. Humphreys, President; James H. Stark, Chairman; the Rev. William H. Allbright, D.D., James F. Wattles, A. F. Delano, the Rev. Eugene R. Shippen and James L. Miller, met the guests of the occasion in the library of the spacious building, and at seven o'clock the two hundred present assembled in the gymnasium, which had been converted into a dining hall.

The speechmaking began at eight o'clock, and President Humphreys acted as toastmaster. In opening the speeches, he said:

ADDRESS

BY PRESIDENT OF THE DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Gentlemen, — As President of the Dorchester Historical Society, it becomes my duty to call you to order, not that I have noticed any disorder, but to call your attention to what I trust will not only be interesting, but instructive as well. Let us "mix reason with pleasure and wisdom with mirth."

Perhaps some of you may have noticed that I looked a little sober during the supper. It was because I knew I would be expected to make a speech after the meal. I have been comparing my position to-night with that of Daniel in the lion's den. In a celebrated picture Daniel is made to look happy in the presence of the wild beasts. A young man, after examining the picture, asked the artist why he had painted Daniel with such a smiling countenance and apparently so happy. The artist replied, "That is because he knows he will not have to make a speech after the meal." Here I am in the presence of all these lions.

As I look over this audience and see the renowned orators and eloquent divines, I have magnified my office as I recall a quotation from Shakespeare, for I can say with the Bishop of Carlisle, in "Richard II.,"

"And who sits here who is not Richard's subject?" Yes, this is the chance of my life, for I can lord it over you to my heart's content. A presiding officer's duty is to the whole company, and not to the individual. If I see a person at the table whom I know the audience would like to hear, I shall call him, even though he does not wish to speak. Now, you ministers, doctors and professors have enjoyed the physical feast, and we are now to enjoy "the feast of reason and the flow of soul."

But, friends, I would not be true to the position I hold if I did not sound the keynote of this afterglow of the banquet by calling your attention to the object for which the Dorchester Historical Society was organized. We wish to make this gathering tonight educational, to inspire in your hearts a love for "Good old Dorchester," and a determination to make the rising generation realize what an important part it took in moulding and developing the beginning of New England. Let us do honor to the memory of John White, the founder of Dorchester — yes, the founder of Massachusetts — by seeing to it that every boy and girl in our community knows who he was and what he did. I am proud of being one of a few who caused to be placed in St. Peter's Church in old Dorchester, England, where John White's body lies, a tablet stating the fact that he is buried there, and I am proud to have joined with several whom I see before me in having placed in our Dorchester High School some of the tessellated pavement of Roman origin from Dorchester, England.

I thank God for the Puritanism of Dorchester, and let us see to it that in the abolition of Puritanical laws and the growth of liberalism we do not go too far and our liberty become license. There is little danger to-day of the rising generation becoming too Puritanical, but there is danger that the influence of the lives of Governor Winthrop and the Mathers be lost. Let us throw the mantle of charity over their faults and remember their virtues. Let us do our part to make the "Dorchester spirit" known throughout New England as the spirit of reverence for all that is good in the past, respect and love for those brave souls who in the early settlement of Dorchester laid down their lives for us, and set an example of self-sacrifice and devotion to what they felt to be the will of God.

ADDRESS

BY THE REV. PETER RONAN

The first speaker introduced by President Humphreys was the Rev. Peter Ronan, pastor of St. Peter's Church, Meeting House Hill. The venerable clergyman was warmly applauded as he arose to speak. He took for a topic "The First Settlers of Dorchester." As a sort of preface to his remarks, he said that he considered the celebration the best Dorchester Day up to the present time. He considered Dorchester a district of homes, and these homes, he said, were the homes of citizens who are second to none in loyalty, good citizenship and perseverance. He admitted that there was much poverty in the district, but claimed that the wealth of the citizens of Dorchester strikes a very high average even for an American community.

He detailed at some length the history of the first settlers of Dorchester, telling in a pleasing manner of the crude homes built by them, and as time passed on how they improved their dwellings by building them of the sturdy oak. As a result of their using such material, many of their old homes are standing to-day, he said, and he named a number of famous old-time dwellings which are located in the district.

He recited in a most entertaining way the incidents connected with the building of the first church in Dorchester at the corner of Pleasant and East Cottage streets, and told of how it was built of logs, was twelve feet high, and that there were military stores in it and guns on the roof. Said he, "His Satanic majesty must have trembled when the first church in Dorchester got going." [Laughter.] He told how the first stove ever to be introduced into a church was placed in the local churches in 1820, and of the vigorous protests of several staunch members, which created a deal of amusement among his audience. He related how the first settlers met with many trials; how man to man they fought and died that they might overcome these obstacles, which they so successfully did. "We should remember the patience and fortitude of the first settlers in our troubles," said the speaker. "They should help us in overcoming our perplexities and teach us the lesson of patience, which means victory over every trouble."

In closing his remarks, Father Ronan strongly advocated the necessity of a park at Savin Hill. "We must have the park at once," he said. He told of how three-apartment houses are being built all over the district, and said that we did not want such things to mar the spot where the first settlers of the now great district landed. Furthermore, he declared, the park should not only be made at once, but it should also be amply protected and cared for by the city.

Father Ronan's remarks were heartily applauded.

The Hon. Guy A. Ham, Assistant United States District Attorney, was the orator of the evening, and his address was one of the treats of the day. He spoke at some length upon the first settlers, and his address was received with a tremendous outburst of enthusiasm.

ADDRESS

BY THE HON. GUY A. HAM

At this period of the year we celebrate many anniversaries that are commemorative of great events in American history; but these anniversaries, for the most part, commemorate great military conflicts in which other generations of Americans have engaged.

It is highly fitting, therefore, that at this time, the citizens of Dorchester should set apart a day in memory of the peaceful settlement of this community, that we may have an opportunity, by gathering together on occasions of this description, to do honor to the achievements of those who planted the seed from which sprung the institutions which have been, in large measure, responsible for the success of the American government.

As we reflect upon the character of the men and women who first settled in this community, we are especially impressed with their high devotion to principle, and this characteristic was found existing, also, among the early citizens of the colony and their descendants, who, later, established the American Republic.

Other nations, it is true, have produced citizens that have undergone heroic self-sacrifice for the sake of their country, but few of them have been actu-

ated by that high resolve and unselfish devotion to principle that inspired the first settlers of America.

It is true that, as we peruse the history of ancient Greece, we note numerous instances of magnificent sacrifice on the part of their people, but they were urged to that sacrifice, for the most part, to save the cities of Greece from the invaders that threatened their existence. In the annals of the old Roman empire we read many stories of patriotic sacrifice on the part of thousands of heroic Romans, but they were actuated by the desire to place the imperial eagle of Rome over lands that had hitherto refused to acknowledge their dominion.

Throughout the middle ages we find abundant evidence of a willingness to give up life and everything that man holds dear, when they heard the call of their country, but too frequently they were inspired to undergo that sacrifice because of religious bigotry or from some mistaken sense of chivalric honor. Not until we cross the broad bosom of the Atlantic and delve into the history of the American colonies do we find an entire race or people actuated by principles that had hitherto failed of expression in the conflicts undertaken by other people. The early colonists and the fathers of the Revolution, all of those that participated in the early struggles that made possible the existence of the American Republic, were actuated by a high devotion to principle — the principle that all men should be equal before the law; and to that end they forsook the comforts that a life of ease held out before them, thrust aside

ambition, and as occasion demanded sacrificed life itself to the end that they might make possible a form of government where the principles in which they believed might find expression.

While the struggles in which they engaged have been ended, and the problems that confront them have been solved, there have arisen new problems which to-day demand solution. The scene, however, has been transferred from the field of battle to the halls of legislation. In the days to come the era through which we are now passing will undoubtedly be known as the era of law enactment and law enforcement.

Inventions like the steam and electric roads, the telegraph and telephone, the growth of great centres of population that are constantly demanding easier and more economical sources of supply, the development of mines and the factory system, have all revolutionized the conduct of industrial enterprise. The capital and effort of single individuals was not sufficient to carry on these undertakings with complete success. It required a combination of effort and a combination of capital. As time advanced there came a demand for a greater economy in the maintenance and administration of these combinations, and as a result we have witnessed a consolidation of combinations.

The practices of these combinations were revealed to the public eye as the years passed on, and it was discovered that through the influence that they exerted over the transportation facilities of the land

COMMITTEE OF THE DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

it was possible not only for them to ruin individual competitors, but to affect the prosperity of entire communities as well. To prevent abuses of this description, to render exact justice to these combinations, to give them the widest opportunity to promote their enterprises in a manner consistent with good morals and sound public policy, to give to the humblest citizen an opportunity to display his talents and achieve success, is the aim and scope of the legislation now being demanded on every hand. In other words, while other generations of Americans solve the question of the equality of all men before the law, we are endeavoring to discover how we may secure equality of opportunity for all men under the law.

A celebration of this description is useful in so far as it affords us an opportunity to study the nobler elements of character in the men and women that first settled in this community, and in so far as we endeavor to follow their example and with high-minded motives strive to labor for the common weal. The passage of time brings with it changed conditions that demand the best thought and attention of the citizens of to-day. We look behind us and behold a magnificent record of achievement on the part of other generations of Americans. It should be our ambition to add something to their record that may make this age worthy of remembrance.

I shall never forget how that lesson was impressed upon my mind by a little incident that occurred a

few years ago while on a vacation in the State of Maine. One Saturday evening I climbed a hill, near the farmhouse where I was staying, for the purpose of viewing the landscape. On one side I could see the White Mountains bathed in the golden light of a magnificent sunset. Looking toward the east I could see the dim outline of the ocean, where at that hour so many thousands were in search of health and pleasure. At the foot of the hill stretched out the farms and the woodlands, everything peaceful about them as if awaiting the approach of the Holy Sabbath. On the right hand I beheld the ridge where the ancestors of my father had settled long years before, coming into what was then a wooded wilderness for the purpose of building homes. Before me were the farms where the ancestors of my mother had labored with fidelity, overcoming the obstacles placed in their way by nature, that they might provide suitably for themselves and families. As I looked out upon that scene, as I looked at the headstones that marked the places where many of them were buried in the midst of the scenes of their life labor, as I noted how the results of their labor had lasted after they had gone, as I reflected upon the joys and sorrows that they had experienced as they attempted to better the condition of those dependent on them, there rushed to my mind in that solemn moment the thought that I, as one of their descendants, was under a serious obligation to prove worthy of their labors and try to add something to the work of those who had gone before.

As a people we stand on the eminence of time, and gazing down through the centuries that have passed we behold a magnificent record of wonderful achievement on the part of other generations of Americans. We should not rest content with expressions of admiration for what they have done, but should labor as did they to uphold the right and defeat the wrong.

Too much cannot be said in praise of those two institutions, the town meeting and the public school, that the early settlers of Dorchester established, institutions that have exerted a profound effect upon American history. May we not say of those institutions as Macaulay said of the civilization of ancient Greece: "When civilization shall have fixed her abode in some distant continent, when the sceptre of power shall have been wrested from the American people, when travellers from some distant shore shall visit our land and hear savage nations chanting their hymns over our fallen temples and shall labor in vain to decipher the names of our proudest chieftains on some mouldering pedestal, still the memory of those institutions will survive fresh in immortal youth, eternal and immutable as the principle from which they derived their origin."

To the early settlers of Dorchester we dedicate this day, a memorial to the past, an inspiration to the present and a prophecy of the possibilities of the future.

John A. Fowle, Secretary of the Dorchester Historical Society, was the next speaker, and he was

followed by Mrs. Julia K. Dyer. The Rev. George L. Paine, rector of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, was next called upon, and he delivered a stirring address on patriotism.

The Rev. Clifton D. Gray, Ph. D., pastor of the Stoughton Street Baptist Church, spoke briefly, as did Mr. Patrick F. McDonald, who was the last speaker of the evening. After a few remarks by President Humphreys, the exercises were closed.

The speakers dwelt upon the matter of saving Savin Hill as a park to commemorate the first settlers of Dorchester, and lauded the history of this beautiful suburb of Boston.

The banquet brought Dorchester's great celebration to a close. The weather had been ideal, and the whole program was carried out completely without any accident or omission, and it was the universal opinion that Dorchester Day had come to stay.

INDEX

TO

DORCHESTER DAY CELEBRATIONS

INDEX

Page

Algonquin tribes former inhabitants 37
Allbright, Mary E., poem by 83, 84
Rev. W. H., address of 78
American lines during siege of Boston, location of 95
"Arbella," arrival of 39
Atherton, Major-General Humphrey, location of home of 95
Athletic games:
On Fourth Dorchester Day 93, 94
On Second Dorchester Day 27
Banquet:
Address by Guy Ham 106
Address by President of the Dorchester Historical Society ... 100
Address by Rev. Peter Ronan 103
Celebration of Fourth Dorchester Day 99
Committee of same 99
Baseball games, Third Dorchester Day 51
Bell, Alderman Tilton S., Chairman of City Committee 56
Blake, Dr. Clarence J., and John H., descendants of James Blake. 7
Blake House:
One of oldest in country 45
Replacing old Dorchester Milestone at 58
Starting point of parade 23
Brewer, Daniel Chauncey, oration of 70
Butterworth, Hezekiah, poem by 24
Clap, Roger, His narrative 15
De Normandie, Rev. James, address of 6
Dorchester:
Declares independence 44
Description of Town of 40
"Dorchester Pioneers," by Mary C. Allbright 83, 84
First free school in 42
First town meeting in 42
Gentlemen's Driving Club race 50, 51
Its part in Indian Wars 44
Part taken in Rebellion 44
Two Hundred Seventy-fourth Anniversary of 5
Dorchester Day:
First celebration of 11
Fourth celebration of 55
Second celebration of 23
Third celebration of 31
Dorchester Historical Society:
Incorporated 5
Program of Fourth Dorchester Day celebration 55, 58

Page

Eells, John, first settler 17
Rev. James, oration of 24
Essayists, prizes given to 84
Everett, Edward:
Mansion of 6
Oration of 18
Fireworks display 97
Fitzgerald, Mayor John F.:
Address by, on Third Dorchester Day 49
Address of, at resetting of old Milestone 63
Display of fireworks by 31
Entertains Governor Guild at his residence 90
Grants appropriation for Fourth Dorchester Day 55
Guild, Gov. Curtis, Jr., address of 61
Ham, Guy A. 12
Address of 19
Address of, at banquet 106
Hawkins', Mr., great guns are mounted at 17
High School, Roman pavement at 48, 69
Historic spots located 95
Humphreys, Richard C.:
Address at banquet of Dorchester Historical Society 100
Address of welcome 24
Address on Fourth Dorchester Day 59
Address on Third Dorchester Day 35
Opening address on First Dorchester Day 13
President Dorchester Historical Society 12
Ludlow, Roger:
First Deputy Governor 16
Site of home 96
MacCurdy, Brenton H., song by 26
"Mary and John":
Arrives at Nantasket 71
Arrives with first settlers 15
Leaves Plymouth 70
Poem 24
Massachusetts Company 17
May, John J., former president of Dorchester Historical Society. 13
Meeting House, location of 95
Nantasket Point, arrival of "Mary and John" at 39
New England Guards, camped at Savin Hill 17
Old Hill 11
Oliver, Thomas:
Location of residence of 95
Royal Lieutenant-Governor of Massachusetts 6
Parade:
Roster of Fourth Dorchester Day 91, 92
Roster of Third Dorchester Day 33
Second Dorchester Day 23

Page

Program :
Of City Committee of Fourth Dorchester Day Celebration... 56, 57
Of Dorchester Historical Society 58
Third Dorchester Day 32
Quincy, Josiah, oration of, on Third Dorchester Day 37
Resolve, requesting city to purchase Savin Hill 49
Rock Hill is fortified 15
Rocky Hill, original name 11
Ronan, Rev. Peter 12
Address at banquet 103
Address of 19
Sailing Regatta, on Second Dorchester Day 26
Savin Hill :
Celebration at, on Fourth Anniversary 68
Entrenchments constructed at, during War of 1812 96
Order for building first fort at 96
Origin of name 18
Selected for a park 18, 19
Site of home of Roger Ludlow 96
Site of two buildings used as barracks during siege of Boston. 96
Yacht Club, promenade concert at 98
Shippen, Rev. Eugene R. :
Address of 14
Address of, on Fourth Dorchester Day Celebration 82
Historical address 24
Pastor of First Parish Church in Dorchester 12
Recitation of "Dorchester Pioneers" 83
Stark, James H. :
Address on Milestones 65
Founder of Dorchester Day 7
Incorporates Dorchester Historical Society 5
Oration of, on First Dorchester Day 15
Stoughton, Col. Israel :
Built first grist mill in New England 96
Leading man of Colony 40
Location of house 96
Tailor, Lieut.-Gov. William, location of home 96
Torchlight and bonfire, on Second Dorchester Day 27
Town Meeting, order for first 75
Water sports 87
White, Rev. John, obtains Charter 37
Whitmore, William H., founder of Dorchester Historical Society. 5
Winthrop, Governor, refers to Roger Ludlow 16
Yacht race :
Fourth Dorchester Day 85
Third Dorchester Day 51

114534